THE HINDOO PATRIOT

With which is incorporated the Indian Field.

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Per Annum in Advance.
TOWN.....11-8.
MOFUSSIL.....13-4.

THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 28TH FEBRUARY.

AT THE ANNUAL MEETING of the Liverpool Branch of the Church of England Temperance Association Sir Richard Temple thus spoke on temperance:

He himself was not a total abstainer, but he had been obliged to practise temperance in order to fulfil the duties of his life, and to bear the heat and burden of the day. He had borne not only the burning glare of tropical regions, but also the suns of the Himalayas and the chills of winter in Afghanistan; and that he was able to stand before them that evening he attributed to the fact that he had been obliged to practise temperance. The intemperance among Englishmen was not quite so bad, he hoped, as was represented by the Bishop of Liverpool. The proverb his lordship had alluded to was that—'the first thing a Portuguese did was to build a church; the first thing a Frenchman did was to build a fort; and the first thing an Englishman did was to build a factory' (laughter and applause)—which was much more likely to be the fact according to our national genius. The case was not so bad as his lordship apprehended; and although in the past intemperance had brought the most awful evils on British arms, policy, and British physique and morality in the East, at present the state of affairs, especially in India, was greatly improved.

THE BISHOP of Manchester, following Sir Richard, remarked;

"They had seen and heard a man whom it was worth coming to that hall to see, one of those great Englishmen who had administered the affairs of our Indian Empire (applause)—the Governor of Bombay, who had well earned by his services to his country, that glittering distinction which he wore upon his left breast (loud applause). Sir Richard Temple had told them that though he was no total abstainer he could not have done for his country what he had done if he had not been a temperate man (applause). The man standing so modestly before them with his glittering star was the man whom England relied upon to relieve the great famine in Bengal."

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS contains a Star Chamber sentence, which affords stirring reading It appears that one Mr. Prynne was hauled before the Camera Stellata for publishing, in 1633, a Puritanic book entitled "Histrio-mastix" and containing denunciations of plays, players, music, dancing, hunting, "Christmas keeping," Bonfires, Mogooles and other festivities, fun and frolic for the gratification of the flesh. Such an anchorite's book of faith would anywhere have appeared the most innocent possible. In India the Vairagya inculcated would have secured it considerable attention among certain classes. But the Lord Justices thought otherwise; they condemned the book to be burnt by the common hang-man, and, in passing sentence on the author, the ferocious Earl of Dorset apostrophised:—

Mr. Prynne, I do declare you to be a Schism-maker in the Church, a Sedition-sower in the Commonwealth, a Wolf in Sheep's Clothing: in a word, *omnium malorum nequissimus*. I shall fine him Ten Thousand pounds, which is more than he is worth, yet less than he deserveth. I will set him at liberty no more than a Plagued Man or a Mad Dog, who, tho' he cannot Bite, he will Foam; he is so far from being a Sociable Soul that he is not a Rational Soul; he is fit to live in Dens with such Beasts of Prey as Wolves and Tygers like himself. . . . Now for Corporal Punishment, my Lords, whether I should burn him in the Forehead or slit him in the Nose; for I find that it is Confessed of all that Dr. Leighton's offence was less than Mr. Prynne's, then why should Mr. Prynne have a less punishment. . . . I should be loath that he should escape with his ears, for he might get a Perriwig, which he now so much inveighs against, and so hide them, or force his Conscience to make use of his unlovely Love Locks on each side. Therefore I would have him branded in the Forehead, slit in the Nose, and his Ears cropt too.

After this the Mosleys and the D'Oyleys of our days fining and thumping little boys may be looked upon as harmless enough. Of course they are not Earls, nor do they sit in Starry Chambers, but making every allowance for their common flesh and the humble character of their court-houses, it must be admitted that their sentences are not even comparatively so outrageous, and the celestial brotherhood may well look upon them with a spirit of indulgence.

THE LAHORE TRIBUNE notices quite a crop of murders. Our contemporary writes:

We noticed in our 1st issue the murder of a man Rullia by a soldier named Westwell. Another soldier, by name Logan, is under trial before Mr. Justice Plowden and a Jury on a charge of wilful murder, which took place on the 19th of December last. The victim, in this case, was one Private Scott. Sentence was passed on a third case of murder by Mr. Justice Plowden on the 15th instant. A drummer boy in the 14th Regiment, named Roberts, was murdered by Daniel O'Brien, a Private in the band of the same Regiment, on the 29th of October last at Nowshera.

BEFORE long Pekin will be in direct telegraphic communication with London, the Chinese Government having just entered into an arrangement with the Great Northern Telegraph Company to connect its wide spread web of wires with their capital.

THE EFFECT of the extreme cold upon persons of weak constitution is shown by the fact that the death-rate in London rose to 28·4, being more than 20 per cent. higher than the two previous returns. The recorded mortality from diseases of the chest rose from 371 to 617.

THE WORKS of public utility constructed by private individuals in the N. W. P., at their own cost, during the last year were 313 wells, 26 tanks, 3 dharmsalas, 3 bazars, 8 ghats, and 1 serai. The total cost was Rs. 1,65,186.

TUESDAY, 1ST MARCH.

IT IS calculated that the number of different languages and dialects spoken in the known world is 2,623; of which 587 belong to Europe, 396 to Asia, 376 to Africa and 1,264 to America.

THE INDIAN RAILWAY SERVICE GAZETTE says that native clerks upon the East Indian Railway are aggrieved at the difficulty they experience in obtaining privilege leave to which by the rules of the service they are entitled. Their applications, it is stated, seldom meet with any favourable reply, but they are put off with some excuse, until the occasion for which the leave was required no longer exists. This grievance ought to be remedied.

THE SAME PAPER says that a serious *fracas* occurred recently on the platform of the Rawal Pindi Railway station. An officer belonging to the regiment proceeding down-country got involved in an altercation with the station master about a horsebox. Some harsh language was used, and the officer knocked the station master down. The manager of the line has, we believe, taken the matter up and referred the case to the Commander-in-Chief.

THE N. W. P. GOVERNMENT GAZETTE publishes a resolution by the Government of India, with regard to the supply of articles of European manufacture required for the public service in India. All previous orders are now cancelled, and much greater latitude is allowed to officials to purchase European stores of all kinds in the local markets instead of by indent upon the Secretary of State in England. These purchases are only to be made upon certain conditions, but the following order, embodied in the announcement now made, is a great step in advance:—"The utmost encouragement, consistent with true economy, should be given to the supply of European articles by the local market, and whenever it is possible to do so, articles of local manufacture of indigenous origin should be substituted for European articles."

WE HAVE RECEIVED from the Press Commissioner the following statement:

Remittances to the Home Treasury during the year 1880-81

	£.	Rs.	Average rate	Loss compared with outturn at an exchange of 2s. the rupee.
			s d	
Estimated for the whole year ...	16900000	202800000	1 8	33800000
In the month of February 1881	1617765	16000000	1 7·76	2822310
To the end of the month of February 1881	13632798	164000000	1 7·95	27672020

MOUNG BAH OHN, the newly appointed Burmese civil servant has been posted as Assistant Commissioner of Bassein.

THE BONAPARTIST PRESS announces the early appearance of two books which will awaken the liveliest interest. The Empress Eugenie has prepared for publication a "History of the Life and Death of the Prince Imperial" according to documents still unedited. Its appearance has been delayed somewhat by Her Majesty's change of residence to Farnborough Hill from Chislehurst, where it was written. The second work is also from the pen of the Imperial lady; but, as becomes its diplomatic character has been subjected to the revision of M. Rouher and other leaders of the Napoleonic party. It is entitled "*Les Notes de Napoleon* III., and, according to the *Peuple Francais*, will contain "unexpected revelations regarding certain politicians of the day, who are not sufficiently understood." The *Notes* will be *verbatim* reproductions of a rough diary kept on loose sheets of paper by the late Emperor, filed day by day till they formed, during the twenty years of his reign, a nearly equal number of unbound volumes of manuscript.

WEDNESDAY, 2ND MARCH.

COL. MACDONALD, late Director of Public Instruction Madras, thus spoke in England on the defects of English schools in India:

In some schools of this class the object of the Masters seems to be to do as little work as possible and to teach nothing but what is absolutely necessary to enable the pupils to pass the University and other public examinations. English history is omitted altogether, because it is not prescribed for the Matriculation Examination. Mental Arithmetic shares the same fate. Reading is very much neglected and elocution is not even thought of. Sometimes, indeed, there is no recitation of either prose or poetry, no systematic teaching of translation and composition and no attempt to train the pupils to converse in English. Even in good Hindu Schools the tendency is to exact less work than is prescribed for Government Schools.

It is the dead level of the Indian University system, which is responsible for these results.

MR. CRAWFORD of Bombay has come to Calcutta to report the result of his mission to the Native Sates on the Western Coast to induce them to bring their customs regulations into harmony with those of British India. If we may believe the *Bombay Gazette*, the mission has not proved very successful. The Native States in question have for the most part special interests, not dissimilar in character to those which the Government of India possesses in its opium and salt monopolies. Travancore, for instance, derives a handsome revenue from sandal-wood and cloves and cinnamon; and so do other States. These States have, therefore, refused to enter into the desired compact.

THE MAHARAJA of Kashmir intends trying to introduce the Japanese silkworm into the valley, and Rs. 3,000 worth of eggs have reached Srinagar from Yokohama.

IT IS said that the claims for compensation, on account of camels and mules lost in the recent Affghan campaign, are expected to aggregate 50 or 60 lakhs.

AN ENGLISH military paper believes that the stubborn resistance which the Russian General met with at the fortifications was not a little owing to the instruction given to the Turkoman chiefs by Major F. W. H. Butler in December and January 1877-78. The same officer gave them plans of how to strengthen other positions on the line approaching the Afghan frontier and Merv, and 20,000 men were for some time employed on these works.

IT APPEARS from Mr. Gladstone's reply to Sir David Wedderburn that the injustice of imposing a prohibitive tax upon Indian silverwork is engaging the attention of the Government. The imitations of Indian silver ornaments, which have in England the advantage over the genuine product of the native silversmiths, show that there is a market in that country for their varied and beautiful works.

THE CIVIL AND MILITARY GAZETTE has the following remarks on the Strachey Tablet:

Either the *Hindoo Patriot* has been hoaxed, or Lord Lytton has been "drawing the leg of Sir John Strachey and the Anglo-Indian public. The *Patriot* says that the late Viceroy placed in the Agra fort a tablet commemorative of his Finance Minister's services, not to the exchequer, but to antiquarianism. Another paper calls the testimonial "cheap and nasty, for one reason, because Lord Lytton, though he spent public money on the tablet, never consulted the public on the subject. Even so, the expression, "cheap and nasty, is scarcely applicable. For the rest, if any man ever deserved honor of the kind, it was Sir John Strachey. If that shifty official never did any good to the India of the nineteenth century, he did much for the India of antiquity. The Strachey tablet seems premature as a Strachey urn; but of course that is no reason why it should not exist. The gifted plagiarist of George Sand and the Servian poems is capable of any eccentricity, and had he substituted an equestrian statue for a piece of marble, we should not have been at all surprised.

THURSDAY, 3RD MARCH

WE ARE INFORMED that His Excellency the Viceroy will leave Calcutta on March 15th, and arrive at Simla on the 21st idem.

WE HAVE RECEIVED the following message from the Press Commissioner:

Telegram dated Kandahar February 28th states: all quiet in Kandahar and neighbourhood. Sirdar Gul Mahammad writes that all the Alizai and Barakzai chiefs except two have

been dismissed to their homes, and that he himself has retired to his village of Nakr-i-Sirkar leaving his son with some sowars to hold the fort of Girishk.

A trustworthy informant who left Maimenah six weeks ago, and Herat a fortnight later, states that Fathulla Beg, Firozkohi, and Muhammad Khan Hazara have both fled from Herat. Yaluntush Khan, with one thousand sowars had arrived in Maimenah, but had been prevented by the Wali of Maimenah from proceeding to Turkistan.

Sirdar Ishak Khan, Governor of Kurkistan has sent (?) regiments of infantry, two of cavalry and a few irregular levies. Some of his troops are at Shiburghan, and two regiments have been sent to Kunduz and Badakhshan to collect revenue. He is said to be governing well, and the Aimaks and Moghals of Taiwara are preparing to attack the Herat garrison in that place.

The weather continues wet and stormy, but not cold. Snow is however reported fallen on the Khojah.

The 11th Foot is under orders to march to Quetta escorting a large convoy of invalids, and will start as soon as the weather clears. The 2nd Sind Horse has marched to take up the line of communications from the 3rd Bombay cavalry.

WE HAVE received the following from a correspondent at Jonye :

This is really a year of plenty. The yield of all crops has been copious, paddy and serials, potatoes and sugarcane. The mango crop promises also to become a copious one. There is scarcely any sickness and it is a bad day for the saw-bones who are bethinking themselves of betaking to other occupations. To what may this unusual favor of Heaven be owing? Perhaps to the advent of a righteous Governor-General in the person of the Marquis of Ripon.

The census operations gave rise to many kinds of wild rumours among the people here. One was that the census is a prelude to the imposition of municipal rates and taxes in all the villages. The ignorant had a vague idea of some unknown danger looming in the distance, some implored your correspondent to give them and their families shelter on the census night, others asked for their goods and chattels being taken and kept in safe custody. It required much soothing explanation to allay their fears. Much credit is due to Babu Unuroopchunder Mookerji, for the zeal and earnestness with which he superintended the census work though under great disadvantages owing to impaired health.

Babu Ram Surma of the defunct *Mookerjee's Magazine* is in our midst. He has come here to recruit his health. He is engaged in preparing a Bengali treatise on astrology to the study of which he has devoted himself. The prospect of the local training school is now hopeful. It was doomed to the displeasure of the educational authorities for not having turned out successful candidates at the University Entrance Examinations. It has passed two candidates this year. Babu Ramlal Mookerji, our distinguished fellow villager a B. L., and a koolin of the first water to boot, has performed a feat of heroism for which he has earned the thanks of the community. He has married his daughter to a koolin of inferior rank only for his abilities and literary acquirements and this despite fearful prejudices. A poor wood-cutter of our village met with an accident in the course of his business and had his right leg amputated at the Serampore Hospital.

A CORRESPONDENT writing from Gossain Durgapur in the Nuddea District says :

Next to Santipore and Ranaghat Gossain Durgapur is the third important village in the Nuddea District standing on the river Kumar. It was at one time a very healthy place but since the commencement of the silting up of the river owing to the erection of the railway bridge over it the village has become subject to epidemic fever. The river is practically closed to navigation, and even during the rains it scarcely affords safe passage to country *dinghees*, it is in most places overgrown with weeds. During this year the outbreak of fever was most violent and the mortality fearful. The poorer classes suffer most from want of proper medical relief, the gentlemen classes are well off and can take care of themselves. The only big zemindars in this part of the district were the Indigo planters, but owing to loss in their business they have sold their estates to the Shaha brothers of Amlah who seem to take no interest in their welfare.

THE FOLLOWING story of a deadly feud having been made up through the influence of a Magistrate is worth record. In the interior of the sub-division of Serampore there is a village, which is inhabited by two Brahmin families and a number of Podes or parias. The Brahmins and the Podes were in deadly feud with each other, which led to frequent police cases. Mr. Carstairs, the sub-divisional officer, called at the village and spoke to the belligerent parties urging them to make up their differences. His admonition had the desired effect and the belligerents swore to become friends. Mr. Carstairs himself and his amlah made pecuniary presents to the people, and with contributions from their own pockets they had a grand feast in commemoration, to which the amlah were also invited.

A HOWRAH CORRESPONDENT calls our attention to the deplorable condition of Bacharam Chowdhary's Lane, Sulkea, commencing from Mackenzie's Road at one end and ending at the Howrah Road at the other. The lane is a kutcha one and during the rains there is knee-deep mud in it, and nobody looks after it, though a portion has been absorbed in a neighbouring tank.

FRIDAY, 4TH MARCH.

A CORRESPONDENT in Orissa notices the appointment of two Bengali gentlemen as Sub-Deputy Collectors in the Orissa Division and asks why are the claims of natives of Orissa systematically ignored when they possess necessary qualifications? He remarks that when the Government has laid an embargo on the employment of others than Beharis in Behar, should not a similar restriction be laid on the appointment of others than natives of Orissa in the Government service in Orissa?

IN A despatch to Her Majesty's Secretary of State dated February 21st 1881, the Government of India have proposed to abolish the Paper Currency Circles of Cocanada, Nagpore and Akola. They have at the same time announced their intention to consult the Local Governments and the Commercial bodies concerned before making any change.—*Press Commissioner.*

TWO EMISSARIES sent by Ayub Khan from Herat have arrived in Kandahar, their object being understood to be to ascertain whether there is any prospect that the British Government will entertain overtures on Ayub's part. Latest advices from Herat represent Ayubs' tenure of Herat and the adjacent districts as precarious. Yaluntush Khan son of Agha Khan, whom Ayub executed is in open hostility against him and has retired to Maimenah which is held for Abdur Rahman by the Usbegs.—*Ditto.*

AN INTERESTING ceremony was held in Bombay for the inauguration of the Sassoon Building of the Elphinstone High School. Sir James Fergusson, the new Governor, delivered an excellent address. Referring to the benefactions of Cowasjee Jehangeer Readymoney and Sir David Sassoon His Excellency said: "The bearers of these names have been conspicuous by their gifts for the benefit of their fellow-citizens, and they have been well seconded by those whose names are too numerous to mention now, but who unremittingly subscribed amounts worthy of the objects in which they are interested; and their generosity has enabled Government to add such a proportion to the funds required as was sufficient to ensure the work being properly carried out." Long live their names!

MR. APASAHEB SHASTRI, grandson of the late Gungadhur Shastri of historic celebrity, has presented Sir James Fergusson some verses in Sanskrit. Sir James has been so much pleased with them that he has ordered the Oriental Translator to render them into English.

COL. OLCOTT delivered a lecture on "Theosophy, its friends and enemies," in course of which he said:

Mr. Gunputrao, the editor of the *Hindu Prakash*, had asked if the theosophists were free from the six passions of man. Some of these vices might be justly disclaimed. They could not be charged with lust, greediness, avarice or envy. If the lecturer said they were perfectly free from vanity, that might be taken as the best possible way of showing that they were not. From anger, however, they were not to be exempted for they had not yet learned to bear in silence and with smiles the attacks of their enemies.

Happy men, these theosophists! They are free from "lust, greediness, avarice, and envy." They are only given to "anger!"

THE FOLLOWING is an abstract of the weather, crop, and health report of the North-Western Provinces for the week ending 23rd February: "Some rain fell during the week, which has, on the whole, done good. The unirrigated rabi has suffered severely, especially in Rai Bareli. The rabi harvest has begun in places, and has relieved the pressur of distress. No hail has fallen, except in Aligarh, where it does not appear to have done much damage. With the exception of a slight fall in Rai Bareli, Allahabad, and Cawnpore, prices are stationary. Small-pox has abated in Partabgarh; Typhus continues in Kamaun, and measles in Allahabad; Sporadic cholera reported in parts of Allahabad; otherwise the general health is good. Cattle disease has appeared in Lucknow, and continues in Kumaun."

A NEW YORK PAPER says: "A number of persons more or less prominent in different walks of life have died in this city within a few months from the direct effect, it is said, of hypodermic injections of morphine. Most of them had, according to report, begun the injections in order to relieve themselves from pain caused by neuralgia, rheumatism, or some other distressing disorder. The effect was so pleasant, so delicious, indeed, that they were gradually seduced into such use of morphine when they had no need of it, and, soon yielding completely to the habit, were destroyed by it." We give this fact by way of warning to those, who may be similarly disposed.

SATURDAY, 5TH MARCH.

A MEERUT CORRESPONDENT sends us a report of two lectures lately delivered there by Mr. Vaideat Deguk Charlu B. A. from Madras, one on "The Wants of India" and the other on "the Wants of India politically considered." The last consisted of many hints and suggestions which were well received by the audience. The lecturer dwelt on the example of the Bengalis, the Mission of Mr. Lalmohun Ghose to England, and the many political institutions established in Bengal. He was answered by another lecturer one Mr. F. Tanthome, who deprecated all criticism of Government measures and policy and recommended implicit submission to every thing it does. He contradicted and ridiculed the opinions of the first lecturer and insulted and laughed down all speakers, who rose to contradict him.

A MR. COOPER charged with the murder of a European woman under his protection has been tried by the High Court of Allahabad, found guilty and sentenced to be hanged. The *Indian Herald* says that the condemned man has resolved to appeal to Government on the ground of his alleged innocence, while a memorial is being prepared by some of the residents of Jubbulpore, praying for a mitigation of the sentence.

THE KOLHAPUR conspiracy case has at last been adjudicated upon by the assessors. Three of the accused, Rambhut, the ringleader, Appa Balgonda, and Tatia Kochage, have been found guilty of waging or attempting to wage war against the Kolhapur State, of conspiracy for that purpose, and of collecting arms with the intent of carrying it into execution. Other fourteen of the prisoners have been convicted on one or other of the various counts, while the assessors declared that seventeen out of twenty-seven are guilty of rebellion and not of mere attempt at dacoity. The Court is expected to give judgment shortly.

A BENGAL CIVILIAN has been at last appointed Under-Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department. Mr. Bolton has been appointed to this post.

THE LONDON GAZETTE notifies that the Queen has been graciously pleased to nominate and appoint Sirdar Dewa Singh, Prime Minister of His Highness the Maharaja of Patiala, to be a Knight Commander of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India.

IT IS ANNOUNCED that the Government of India have sanctioned the grant of a war medal to the troops of the Native States and Contingents who took part in the Afghan campaign. This is a well deserved honor.

IT IS STATED that the Faculty of Arts have recommended and that the Senate of the Punjab University College have agreed to represent to the Judges of the Chief Court that, on and from the current year, no person be allowed to practise as a Mukhtar, who has not attended a second year's Course in the Law School. It is also in contemplation to have only one Examination in future for Pleaders and Mukhtars, after the completion of the two years' Course, those who pass by the higher standard becoming Pleaders and those who pass by the lower standard becoming Mukhtars.

AT THE LAST Honor and M. A. examination in the Calcutta University, the N. W. Provinces and Oudh it appears have done well, the Muir Central College, Allahabad, passing one graduate in Mathematical Honours, one in Physical Sciences, and two for the degree of M. A., all their candidates being successful. Canning College, Lucknow, has one graduate in English Honours, one in Mathematics, and one for the Degree of M. A.

THE FANCY FAIR at Belvedere in aid of the Hospital Nurses Fund was a success. We wish the Native community were better represented among the investors.

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week :

London, February 25th.—Communications have been exchanged between Sir G. Colley and the Boers. The Orange Free State Volksraad has passed a vote of sympathy with the Boers, and hopes the British Government will grant their reasonable demands. Mr. Grant Duff, replying to a question in the House of Commons, said that negotiations have failed with the Basutos. The British Government regrets the severity of the terms proposed.

26th.—Lord Hartington in replying to a question said that General Hardinge's tenure of the Commander-in-Chiefship of Bombay would be subject to future arrangements. Replying to another question, he said there was no immediate prospect of reinstating the British Agent at Mandalay.

28th.—The *Daily News* publishes a paragraph stating that preparations are being made to evacuate Kandahar at the end of March.

1st.—The Home Rulers in Parliament are blocking the army estimates.

1st.—The Secretary of State for War, in replying to a question in the House of Commons, said that, in addition to the 99th, 85th and 102nd Regiments already under orders for the Transvaal, it had been decided to-day that further reinforcements of three more infantry regiments, one battery of artillery and one cavalry regiment be sent out. The following is now stated to be the list of casualties in the action at Spitkof. Three officers killed, nine wounded and seven taken prisoners. Of the men 82 were killed, 122 wounded and 50 taken prisoners.

The Irish Coercion Bill has been read for the first and second time in the House of Lords. The Ministerial Arms Bill for Ireland was introduced in the House of Commons this evening and declared to be urgent.

2nd.—The official *Gazette* publishes the list of rewards for services in the late Afghan War.—Generals Bright, Ross, Hills, Phayre, Macpherson, Palliser, Charles Gough, Hugh Gough, Macgregor and Baker have been appointed Knights Commander of the Order of the Bath. 18 Colonels, 21 Lieutenant-Colonels two Majors, and four doctors have been appointed Companions of the Bath. Five political officers have been appoint-

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ed Companions of the Star of India ; 75 Majors promoted to be Lieutenant-Colonels, and 78 Captains to be Majors.

2nd.—Generals Sir F. Roberts and Sir Donald Stewart have been created Baronets.

2nd.—The latest advices from Natal State that Colonel Stewart 3rd Dragoons, and Major Fraser, of the Engineers who were missing have arrived at Mount Prospect uninjured. Captain Hornby of the 58th, reported as killed, is a prisoner in the hands of the enemy.

3rd.—The Royal assent has been given to the Irish Coercion Bill. The attitude of the Land League is defiant. An outbreak of plague is reported at Djaffar *(?)* in Mesopotamia. The Basuto armistice has terminated, and the Basuto chief, Lerothodi has declined to negotiate with the Cape Government.

4th.—In the House of Lords last night Lord Lytton introduced a motion, condemning the policy of Government in respect to Kandahar. All sections of native opinion in India, he said, condemned the policy of the Government. England might be indifferent to the changing fortunes of the rulers at Kabul and to Russian action at Herat if Kandahar were held by us firmly and fearlessly. Lord Enfield said that the Native Princes of India had the greatest dread of any further annexation. Opinions were conflicting as to the military advantages to be derived from the permanent occupation of Kandahar, and the commercial advantages were doubtful, the political effects would be serious, and the financial difficulties onerous. Lords Derby, Northbrook and others approved of the policy of Government. Lord Salisbury attacked the policy. The House agreed to an adjournment of the debate.

4th—The following particulars regarding localization of the army are given in Mr. Childers' programme of army reforms. Two battalions of the Line and two of Militia, forming a territorial brigade, will henceforth form a territorial regiment with a country depot, the first and second battalions to be Line, and the third and forth Militia. The whole line is to be organised as the first 25 Line regiments, except rifle regiments, which remain unchanged. Scotch regiments will be grouped in a new system. Lord Hartington, in the House of Commons said that the withdrawal from Kandahar was not dependant upon a peaceable settlement of Southern Afghanistan which possibly would be indefinitely postponed, but arrangements were being made in order to promote the same. Mr. Gladstone in replying to a question in the House of Commons said he believed the Basuto armistice had been prolonged and Lord Enfield, in the House of Lords, said that Government had no information that the Russians were about to occupy, or had occupied, Merv, as announced by Reuter on the authority of the *Times of India*. General Roberts will be accompanied to Natal by Col. Newdigate. Sir Evelyn Wood has been appointed Major General.

Washington March 4th.—The inauguration of Mr. Garfield, as President of the United States, took place to-day.

WITH REFERENCE to our notice of the Entrance Examination results of the Calcutta schools we are requested to state that out of 27 students who went up from the City School for matriculation last year only five were expelled students from the Metropolitan Institution. Of these five, three passed, one in the 1st, one in the 2nd, and one in the 3rd division, and two failed. Of the 22 original students of the City School, 8 passed in the 1st, 12 in the 2nd, and 1 in the 3rd division, and only one failed.

THREE SEAMEN, Brown, Wilson, and Peterson, were arraigned before the Northern Division Magistrate, on a charge of attempting to cut a policeman's throat. The facts of the case are thus set forth in the Magistrate's judgment :

The defendants are charged under Section 362 of the Indian Penal Code, with having voluntarily caused hurt to the constable, whilst in the execution of his duty. The case turns entirely on the question of identity. Whilst the complainant was on watch at Jetty No. 3. three sailors came towards the shore in a *dinghy*, they climbed up to the Jetty, and attempted to commit some mischief. The complainant interfered, upon which two of these men assaulted and knocked him down, and jumped upon him. He became insensible, and when he recovered consciousness, he found he had been stabbed in the neck. This happened about 3 A. M. It was moonlight then, and there were lights on the Jetty. The complainant swore positively as to the identity of the defendants. He identifies Brown and Wilson as the two men who assaulted him and knocked him down and jumped over him. If his statement had stood alone there would have been some reason to think that he might be mistaken ; but when I take the circumstances deposed to by the *dinghymen* into consideration, I find the chain of evidence against the defendants so strong, as to leave no doubt in my mind as to their identity. The *dinghy* had been attached to the steamer *Adjutant* for ten days ; the boatmen had exceptional opportunities of knowing the defendants, and they clearly, and positively, recognise the prisoners as the men whom they took on shore that morning, and brought back to the ship.

The Magistrate discharged the third man, and convicted the first two and sentenced them to two months' rigorous imprisonment each. The sentence, we must say, was wholly inadequate.

WE HAD a most refreshing shower this night. It was attended with hail.

WE HAVE to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the under-mentioned publications and periodicals : —1. Sixteenth Annual Report of the Sanitary Commissioner with the Government of India for 1879. 2. The London Statesman for February 1881. 3. Army Circulars for January 1881. 4. The Indian Jurist for February, vol. V. No. 2. 5. The Aborigines' Friend for January 1881. 6. Report of the Anglo-Bengali Preparatory School, Allahabad, for 1880. 7. Fifteenth Report of the Charitable Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Calcutta. 8. Journal of the National Indian Association, No. 122 February, 1881. 9. Messrs. J. Haddon and Co.'s Illustrated Trade List of Type Machinery &c., for January 1881. 10. The Oriental Miscellany for March 1881. 11. British Sungit or Poems in Bengali. By Mukund Chunder Lahiri. 12. The Nalini—A Bengali monthly, No. 11. for Falgoon 1287 B. E. 13. Til Turpan—A dramatic Satire. By an Actor. 14. Maya Toru—A Musical-Melange. By Grish Chunder Ghose. 15. The Orient —An Anglo-Indian Monthly Magazine for March 1881. 16. Avash, No. 12.

INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE CULTIVATION OF SCIENCE.

(210, Bow-Bazar Street.)

LECTURE by Babu Tara Prasanna Roy, F.C.S., F.I.C., on Saturday, the 12th Inst., at 3 P. M.

Subject : Potassium and its Salts.

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, MARCH 7, 1881.

THE REPORT OF THE RENT-LAW COMMISSION.

XXX.

THE question of enhancement of rent is certainly the most difficult question connected with the Rent Bill. The Rent Commission ask the question—can a single uniform rule be laid down for enhancement ? and they answer it in the negative. They remark : "The subject has been fully considered by able and practical minds upon more than a single occasion ; and none of these deliberations has produced any simple, practicable, rule which, applied to all conditions and under all circumstances, will afford satisfactory results. In taking up the question anew, and seeking for such a rule, we have examined all that has been done by those who have preceded us in the quest, and we have made what further search we could in the light of their knowledge and experience ; and the ultimate conclusion at which we have arrived is that no such rule can be devised or formulated. It would of course be possible to lay down some rule, which, like Draco's Penal Code, might be embodied in a single section and apply to all cases ; but, when it came to be put into operation, it would work so much injustice to both parties that each would be equally eager for its repeal." We are really surprised to observe that a uniform rule for enhancement should be considered by the Commission to resemble Draco's Code. The arguments, which they adduce in support of their position, are thus summed up : "The uncertainty of agricultural experience is very great in every country, but probably in no country is it so great as in India. This increases the difficulty of providing against fluctuations of season by average calculations ; and the consequences of failure in those calculations is terribly aggravated through the absence of capital, by drawing upon which the agriculturist is in other countries enabled to tide over an abnormal succession of bad years, hoping to replace what is so consumed by increased energy when circumstances are more favorable. The fertility of land depends in India, as in other countries, upon the nature of the soil and subsoil ; and there are in these provinces numerous varieties of both, well understood by the ryots. In settlement proceedings all over India, from before Akbar's time down to the present period, we find these varieties mentioned and taken into account. Some soils are cultivated with much less labour than others ; and this is a very important consideration, where so much has to be done by manual labour, where the race of cattle which supplements the exertions of man is deficient in muscle and vigour, and where the absence of capital and the nature of the country prevent the introduction and use of more effective agency. The rich alluvial *chur* yields a bumper crop in return for the mere exertion of sprinkling the seed on its surface ; while the stiffer soil of the higher *mats*, baked during the burning months when the heaven is as brass and the earth as iron, and scarcely moistened by the tardy rains, is with difficulty turned up by the straining oxen and the toiling plough-man to be ready in time for the rice seedlings, which one by one have to be planted out through the full expanse of every field." All these arguments, we submit, tell more in favour of a uniform rule for determination of rent than otherwise. The history of rent in this country shows that the rule has always been to appropriate a fixed share of the gross produce of the soil as the *kheraj* due to the State, as the rent payable to the superior landlord. Whatever the nature of the soil, whatever its yield, if a share of the gross produce be fixed as the equivalent of rent, that share will in the long run be just and equitable. It was on this principle that the rent of land had always been fixed in this country. It was the rule laid down by Menu, by the Mahomedan rulers of the country, and recognized by early British rulers. It varied from one-fourth to one-half. The Commission remark : "If half the produce be given as rent, it makes an enormous difference to those who have to subsist on the remainder, whether the half of a hundred measures be given or the half of three hundred. Where the size of the holding is not limited by the amount of labour necessary for cultivation, it may be limited by the pressure of population and the extent of uncultivated land still available. Thus, similar results are produced by different causes. Then we have differences in situation almost infinite. Where rent is payable in money, part of the crop must be sold to obtain the coin with which the ryot may discharge his liability. If the mart is near, the labour and cost of carriage are inconsiderable, and the ryot can easily go to market when prices are most favourable ; but these become a serious item, when the produce has to be carried over roadless plains and across unbridged *nullahs* to a distant and uncertain staple. Some fields are near the village and the threshing-floor, and no sooner is the crop ripe than it is garnered while others lie in a distant *mat* and their produce has to be carried on bullock's backs or men's heads, many an ear falling by the wayside to where it can be threshed and winnowed, and this perhaps after the thieving birds and hungry cattle or it may be the wild hogs from the neighbouring *jangle* have sadly diminished the husbandman's profits, while he is waiting his turn for the busy oxen or the help of his neighbours. Here the water is deficient for the *amun* paddy, and there the *aus* is drowned by an unforeseen inundation. In one part of the country land is sufficiently plentiful to allow a fourth to lie fallow every year, while in another part the soil never gets rest, and there is no manure to keep up its strength, even the droppings of the cattle being collected and dried for fuel. In one *pergunna*, the adult population are healthy and strong to labour ; in another, the climate is so bad that one-third on an average are down with fever and ague, and the remaining two-thirds in various stages of convalescence lack the physical vigour necessary to successful toil. In one district the cultivators of the soil have to support but one set of landlords ; in another, they have half a dozen or even more, middle men under different names and with various rights having come between the zemindars and the ryots. These are some of the many causes upon which depend the numerous inequalities and variations in the subject-matter with which rent is concerned in these provinces. No simple rule of uniform application can allow for all these : and, unless they are allowed for and taken into account in individual cases, there cannot be fair and equitable rates of rent, for, in order to be really so, they must be fair and equitable in the concrete as well as in the abstract."

We submit that these objections are purely sentimental. All the inequalities noticed by the Commission, doubtless exist, but we are of opinion that if such a share of gross produce be fixed as would meet even extreme cases of hardship, the inequalities mentioned would not be practically felt. As in the case of the Income tax, whatever the rate fixed, inequalities will exist ; for a person with an income of Rs. 1000 per annum will certainly feel the pressure of the tax more than he who has an income of Rs. 100,000, though the rate of taxation be the same. But the question is whether the rate of tax fixed presses with undue severity upon the lower incomes. In the same way we should see

whether such a share of produce might not be determined, as would leave the poorest cultivator enough for cultivation and subsistence. We think it could be so fixed, and if it could be, it would greatly diminish litigation and mutual irritation. The landlord would know precisely what his own share is, while the tenant would know exactly his own liability. In that case it would not be necessary to prescribe grounds of enhancement, specified in the existing Act or in the proposed Bill by the Rent Commission, which would only invite dispute and litigation. If the Government really wishes to purge the courts of ceaseless litigation between the landlord and tenant and to promote peace and good will among the two classes, it ought to provide a uniform, fixed, and precise rule for the settlement of rent. We are willing to admit that the sovereign has always exercised that power, and that custom, which is a higher law than statutory law, has also been in favour of a fixed rule. Examine the rent system of any district, and you will find that at the bottom there has been every-where a rule of proportion according to which the zemindar takes a portion of the produce as rent payable by the ryot. Of course it is difficult now to ascertain that proportion accurately, for when that proportion was fixed, payment was made in kind. Since the commutation of the payment into money the theory of proportion has been practically lost sight of. We are of opinion that it ought to be revived, and that a definite share of the gross produce should be fixed as an equivalent of rent. What that share should be is a fair subject for discussion.

THE BOERS AT THE CAPE.

WE record with the deepest sorrow that a grave disaster has overtaken British arms at the Cape. It would appear that the mails from Sir G. Colley's encampment to Newcastle having been stopped by a Boer patrol and compelled to return, Sir George, with a considerable force, marched to escort the mails and bring back the return convoy, but was opposed by a large Boer force, whose attack, after six hours' fighting, was repulsed. The Boers then made an unsuccessful attack upon the fortified encampments at Lydenberg and Rustenburg. The action at Spitzkop was most disastrous. We give the following details received by telegraph :

London, February 28.—Advices from Natal state that Sir George Colley, with six companies of men, occupied Spitkop, to the left of Langenek, and, after fighting all the morning was ousted from his position. Sir George Colley and many officers were killed, and only one hundred of the British escaped.

London, February 28, 5-30 A.M.—Further telegraphic despatches from Natal state that the fighting which took place at Spitkop between the Boers and the British lasted for several hours. The British were successful until the ammunition failed. The guns operating from the British camp checked the Boers from pursuit. Stragglers are coming in daily.

The *Bombay Gazette's* London correspondent telegraphs :—At midnight on Saturday last Sir G. Colley, with a force of six hundred men of the 58th, 60th, 92nd, and Naval Brigade, marched from the British Camp to seize the heights commanding the Boers' defensive works at Laing's Neck. The movement was completely successful, the Boers in the morning finding, to their astonishment, a British force occupying Spitzkop, the hill overlooking their works. Seeing that their position would be untenable unless they drove out the British, they at once moved out all their forces to attack the hill. Firing commenced at 7 in the morning. Our Gatling gun did much execution. The enemy however renewed their attack frequently. Up to noon, all the attacks were beaten off, but unfortunately no reinforcements were available, and ammunition ran short. The Boers made preparations for a final attack, which was delivered at three. The British having expended their ammunition, a desperate hand to hand fight took place. Our force was driven from the hill with great loss. The remnant fell back in the direction of the camp, which was reached by but few. The guns from the camp partially covered the retreat of those who escaped. Our losses are not yet accurately ascertained, but are known to be heavy in proportion to the force engaged. A very large portion were either killed or taken prisoners. Sir G. Colley and many officers are reported dead. Sir Evelyn Wood is going to take the command. No official report of the losses sustained has been received, nor any explanation why the force occupying the hill under Colley was not reinforced from the camp during the fight.

London March 1.—The latest accounts of the action at Spitkop state that the supplies of ammunition on the British side was ample, and that our defeat was not owing to the failure of ammunition. According to the evidence of eye-witnesses, the Boers stormed Sir George Colley's position during a panic caused by their deadly and heavy fire. The correspondent of the London *Times* was taken prisoner, and identified the body of Sir George Colley, who had been shot through the head. The following is a further list of the casualties among the officers :—Captains Maude of the 90th, and Morris and Hornby of the 58th, killed ; Major Hay and Captain Singleton of the 92nd, and Lieutenants Lucy and Hill, 58th, besides Doctor Ranton, severely wounded. A detached squadron of the naval brigade, 1,000 strong, will land at once for service at the front. The following further reinforcements are under orders for the Transvaal :—The 99th and 85th Regiments and six companies of the 102nd. Sir Fredric Roberts has been appointed to succeed General Colley.

London March 2.—The details of the action at Spitkop have now arrived. The troops engaged, were thirty-five officers, six-hundred and ninety three men ; of these ninety were killed, one hundred and twenty nine wounded, and sixty taken prisoners or missing. The Highlanders suffered most. The 60th had no losses. The body of Sir G. Colley was recovered. The prisoners were well treated by the captors. The Boers attacked in three columns, keeping well under cover, and advanced creeping through a long grass, sheltering themselves behind the boulders and irregularities of the ground. The previous assault on the front had been repelled by the Highlanders. The flank was protected by the men of the naval brigade, and the company of the 58th was likewise attacked, and it was broken through ; all were thereupon swept down the hill together. The composite character of the force was a cause of weakness, and contributed to the catastrophe. An armistice was agreed to in order, that the dead be buried, and the wounded attended. The *Standard's* special was taken prisoner, and had an interview with Joubert, the Boer leader, who said the Boers will only treat for peace on the basis of liberty, but are prepared to accept confederation if left to themselves in all matters relating to the Transvaal territory.

It would be seen from the above that the Boers carried the day by mere force of numbers. The death of Sir George Colley is a national loss to England. He was one of the ablest soldier-administrators of the day, and his loss can not be easily replaced. Why he attacked the Boers, when he was so vastly outnumbered by them is a mystry to us, but perhaps his position was critical. He evidently thought that by mere dash he might be able to save his position, and so he took the aggressive. Be that as it might he took a rash step, and the result, as the event shows, has been disastrous.

The London periodicals teem with papers on the Transvaal question. Sir Bartle Frere has contributed a paper to the *Nineteenth Century* on the subject. Mr. F. W. Chesson, the indefatigable Secretary to the Aborigines' Protection Society, has published a reply to Sir Bartle's article. It is a well-reasoned and calmly written document. The causes of the Basuto War are not far to seek. They are thus summarized in a telling letter of Mr. Griffith, Governor's Agent :

"First,—The appropriation of the large sum of 12,500*l* from the surplus revenues of this territory.

"Secondly,—Calling upon the Basutos to give up their arms.

"Thirdly,—Depriving the Basutos of that part of Basuto land which was recently occupied by the Chief Morosi and a part of his tribe, and who, together with the Basutos, occupied the whole territory as a homogeneous tribe or people.

"Fourthly.—Doubling the hut-tax.

Mr. Griffith remarks :

"Had any of these measures been introduced at different times, and with a sufficient interval elapsing between the introduction of each, the strain would not have been so great ; but considering that they have been introduced simultaneously and so suddenly that the native mind, which it is well known is averse to innovations of any kind, has been unable to grasp clearly the intention of Government and to discern the advantages to be derived, I cannot but feel to have been placed in an equivocal position, one which must naturally create a wide gap in that good feeling which had hitherto existed between the whole nation and myself as their "Father" and the Government representative.

"While assuring you that no effort will be wanting on my part to carry out the instructions which I have received, it may not be out of place for me here to draw your attention to the fact that I have now had the honour to serve her Majesty in different positions of difficulty and trust with an unsullied reputation for thirty-two years, and therefore I am loath to run the risk of losing this hard-won reputation without raising one warning note, in order the Government may fully understand the difficulty which I shall have to contend with in carrying out the measures which have been introduced into this territory.

Sir Bartle Frere, however, paid no attention to this quiet and earnest remonstrance, and the result was the Basuto War !

THE LABOUR EMIGRATION LAW.

The reader will remember that, at the instance of persons interested in the tea industry of India, the Government of India last summer directed the attention of the Government of Bengal and the administration of Assam to the expediency of amending the Labour Districts Emigration Act. The Supreme Government desired that every effort should be made to people the sparsely-populated districts of Assam, which would yield ample food supplies for a large population, and to draw to them the surplus population of densely-peopled tracts such as Behar and the North-Western Provinces, by a system of free emigration. The labour needed for the tea districts of Bengal has all to be imported from the Bengal Presidency, and it is the aim of the Government to give such encouragement to external emigration as would attract to those rich districts the surplus population of Western Bengal, Behar, the North-Western Provinces and Oudh. With this object in view the Government of Bengal appointed a Commission under the Presidency of Mr. Alexander Mackenzie to consider and amend the Labour Districts Emigration Act. The Commission have submitted their report. They point out that the present Labour Districts Emigration Act VII (B. C.) of 1873, is defective in the following particulars :—(1) that it does not afford sufficient encouragement to free emigration ; (2) that imposes unnecessary restrictions upon sirdari recruiting ; (3) that it fails to provide for the enforcement of contracts made otherwise than under the provisions of the Act itself, even in the case of imported labourers ; (4) that in respect of the remedies provided for employers in the event of the unlawful absence, idleness, or desertion of their contract labourers. The Commission discuss these points at some length.

The Labour Districts in Bengal are the Assam Valley, Cachar, Sylhet, Chittagong and the Chittagong Hill tracts. The Commission observe that in 1873 the Government of Bengal recognized in some degree the propriety of encouraging the spontaneous and unsolicited emigration of other parts of India to these districts, and that Sir George Campbell seems to have held that it was only the difficulty and expense thus attending the conveyance of labourers to Assam which rendered it expedient to give to both employer and labourer the protection of special law. Sir George, indeed, declared that had communications been easy and emigration for the purpose of finding employment common, no case would have existed for applying any other than the ordinary law of master and servant. The Commission hold that the chief drawback in the present Act is that it does not give sufficient encouragement to spontaneous emigration. They write :—

The general conclusion arrived at not only by us but by all who have been consulted in the matter, is that, looking to the increased facilities of communication with the labour districts, to the fact that the conditions of labour there are now thoroughly understood by the class from which the labourers are drawn, to the greatly ameliorated condition of the labourers themselves in the tea districts, to the great importance of colonizing the eastern and relieving the pressure of population in the western districts of the Bengal Provinces, and to the urgent necessity at the present time of assisting the tea industry in which so much capital has been embarked, no unnecessary obstruction should now be thrown in the way of the emigration of natives of other parts of India to the labour districts under contracts made as in the Act provided ; and that nothing should interfere with the making of such contracts by free emigrants and other local and time-expired labourers within the labour districts themselves.

We are thoroughly alive to the "great importance of colonizing the eastern and relieving the pressure of population in the western districts of the Bengal Provinces, and to the urgent necessity at the present time of assisting the tea industry in which so much capital has been embarked ;" but at the same time we think that the Government is bound to protect the weak against the strong. That no unnecessary obstruction should be thrown in the way of the emigration of natives of other parts of India to the labour districts of Bengal may be conceded ; but then we must not forget that the intending emigrant is not practically a free man. He does not thoroughly know and understand the conditions of labour in the tea districts, and in his ignorance he is imposed upon by interested and unscrupulous men. The simple plain fact is that the native of India has a natural dread of proceeding to a distant unknown country ; and that it is practically impossible for a labourer in Western Bengal or Behar to transfer himself and his family to the labour districts without substantial assistance in money. We admit that the improvement in communications which has taken place during the last few years has to some extent obviated the necessity for large expenditure. But still the intending emigrant must have some money to defray the expenses of his emigration. Who is to supply him with funds ? So long as some satisfactory arrangements are not made for providing would-be-emigrants with advances, there can arise no such thing as free emigration. A private employer will not incur the risk of making advances unless he is assured against

The Commission recommend that those employers, who can draw a sufficient supply of labour to their tea gardens without employing a regular agency to recruit and to execute contracts in the recruiting districts, may be left to make their own arrangements. "When free emigrants," they continue, "arrive ready to work for such employers, or where local labourers or others are willing to enter into contracts under the Act, they should be allowed to do so, it being provided that every labourer placing himself under the penal provisions of the Act shall be entitled also to benefit by its protective clauses. If any employer objects to this, he should be at full liberty to make with his labourers any contract which the ordinary law of the country will recognise and enforce." But, as we have already remarked, free emigrants cannot be expected to go to the labour districts in search of employment, unless they receive advances from some source or other to defray the expenses of their emigration. The Commission seem to have overlooked this most important point.

The Commission condemn the employment of professional contractors and recruiters and would give every encouragement to the mode of recruiting by garden sirdars. They recommend that this latter mode of recruiting should be relieved from many of the restrictions which at present apply to it. They write :—

> We have no doubt whatever that most of the abuses attendant upon the engagement of natives of India for emigration purposes have been attributable to the operations of professional contractors and recruiters : and we believe that the only way to put interprovincial emigration on a sound and natural basis, and at the same time to diminish the cost of procuring labour, is to sever all connection between garden sirdars and contractors' depots, and to give the widest scope to the working of the sirdari system ; providing at the same time, in the employer's interests, for the effective control of the sirdars when engaged on recruiting duty. The fiction that the garden sirdar is sent back to induce only his own immediate relatives to return to the garden where he has prospered must be given up. He must be recognized as a recruiter, but as a recruiter directly commissioned by the employer himself, with personal knowledge of a labourer's life, and of whom his employer has personal knowledge. He should not be allowed to degenerate into a professional crimp, and his certificate should therefore run only for a limited period, and be renewable only with the consent of the Magistrate of the Labour District."

We fully endorse all that the Commission say about professional contractors and recruiters. Their misdeeds are notorious. But the sirdari mode of working, that is to say, the sending direct of sirdars from gardens to the recruiting districts, there to engage labourers for employment on the garden from which each has come, is also liable to be grossly abused. The Commission lay down that the garden sirdars are not to be allowed to degenerate into professional crimps. But the question is how far the safeguards which the Commission have provided against such a contingency are calculated to produce the desired result. We very much doubt whether these safeguards will prove sufficient. Garden sirdars are scarcely a better set of men than professional recruiters. The Commission emphatically recognize the absolute necessity of providing a penal contract law to secure employers in the tea districts against the serious losses to which they would be liable under a system of purely civil contracts. They observe :

> But we hold equally strongly the view that if a labourer consents to subject himself to a penal labour law, he is entitled to demand also the protection of law in respect of his general relations with his employer. If he surrenders to some extent his freedom, the law must compel the employer to provide for his wants, must secure to him his wage, must protect him against overwork, and must shield him from ill-usage of all kinds. This being so it seems by far the simplest plan that all penal contracts to labour should be made under the same Act. There is good reason to believe that local and time-expired labourers in the tea districts are fully alive to their own interests, and not likely to be coerced or deceived into making any contract of the terms of which they are in doubt, or which they disapprove.

We do not hesitate to affirm that the working of a penal labour law will inflict untold hardships on the poor and helpless coolies. We would strongly object to the introduction of a system of purely civil contract, if it is to be accompanied by a penal labour law. The inevitable consequence of such a law would be to place the labourer entirely at the mercy of his employer. We hope the Government will not give effect to the recommendation of the Commission on this head. It is needless to say that under a penal labour law the interests of the weak coolie will often be sacrificed to those of his strong employer. In deference to the almost unanimous wish of the planters the Commission propose to permit the extension of the maximum term of contract under the Act from three to five years. This is not a new suggestion. It was made by the Tea Planters' Association of London in their memorial to the Government of India submitted some months ago. Sir Steuart Bayley advanced several weighty objections against the proposed extension. His objections do not seem to have received careful consideration at the hands of the Commission. We are strongly opposed to the extension of the maximum term of contract from three to five years. The present term of three years should in our opinion remain unaltered. If labourers are well treated, they would at the end of three years be only too glad to be re-engaged. The most important point urged by the Commission is that continued attention should be given to the improvement of communications with and throughout the Labor Districts of the Assam and Surmah Valleys. They say :

> We believe that it is in this way, rather than by any scheme of Government emigration, that the waste lands of Assam will ultimately be colonised and reclaimed. Every year sees an increase in the numbers of the resident population, brought there in the first instance to meet the requirements of tea cultivation. If communication is made easy, rapid, and cheap, we cannot doubt that in the time there will set in a natural spontaneous emigration from the overpeopled districts of North Behar to the fertile rice-tracts of Assam. Every Behari labourer who can be kept in health during his contract term, and returned to his home as a garden-sirdar, serves as a living stimulus to bring about such a movement. It is to Behar and the North-West that the tea-planters must in the future mainly look for their supply of labour. It is to Behar and the North-West that the Government must look for the working population to reclaim the wastes of its North-Eastern Frontier. In this view we feel it right to place in the very foreground of all schemes of improvement (apart from the introduction of an accelerated river service, which the local administrations are already doing much to secure, and the making of good roads in the labour districts themselves) the completion of those links in the interprovincial railway system which will make it a simple and a easy matter for the Behari labourer to journey to Assam for work, and which will at the same time serve to stimulate his settling there, by removing those sentimental ideas of distance and separation that more than anyting else at present act as a deterrent upon voluntary and permanent emigration. We have the less hesitation in urging this matter, because experience seems to prove that almost *any* railway in Bengal must be a profitable investment for capital.

The improvement of communications will, no doubt, give an impetus to emigration from the densely-peopled tracts in Western Bengal, Behar, the North-West Provinces and Oudh into the sparsely populated but rich districts of the Assam and Surmah Valleys, and the aim of Government should be to settle immigrants upon good land in the labour districts by offering it to them on favourable terms. The Commission recommend the extension of the Bettiah railway to Parbuttipore and suggest a new line from Caragola to Parbuttipore. These lines would place the whole of North Behar and the trans-Gangetic portion of the North West Provinces, when the Kwania Dhubri tramway is finished, in direct railway communication with Assam. We concur with the Commission that these lines, apart from their value as emigration routes, would do incalculable good to the countries through which they would pass ; and as the provincial finances of Bengal are in a flourishing state, we do not see any reason why their construction should not be taken in hand at once.

MR. CAIRD ON THE CONDITION OF INDIA.

V.

By far the most important subject discussed in Mr. Caird's Report on the condition of India is the revenue system introduced by the British Government. Mr. Caird points out that British rule has substituted money for corn rents, to the disadvantage both of the State and the people and given the landholders power to mortgage and sell their land, thereby enabling them to ruin themselves ; and that the country is harassed by periodical remeasurements of the land and detailed enquiries for the settlement of the revenue. He, accordingly, recommends that recourse should be had where possible, to the old system of corn rents ; and that opportunity should be taken to withdraw from the landholder power of selling or mortgaging his tenure. He also proposes that landholders should be encouraged to redeem the land tax on their lands, and so to be possessors of freeholds over which they would have absolute proprietory powers. He would invest the payments made for such redemption in paying off the public debt and in constructing railways or other works of permanent improvement. He would avoid the cost and harassment to the people, inseparable from periodical settlements of the land revenue, by adjusting the Government demand on a review of the village cadastral records, which are framed in much detail ; and he would give compensation for permanent improvements to landlords or to tenants. The most important measures suggested by Mr. Caird under this head are—the substitution of corn for cash rents ; the gradual redemption of the land tax ; and the continuance of the system of temporary settlements under certain conditions.

On the first point—namely the collection of the land revenue in kind—Mr. Caird makes the following observations :—"Following out our English ideas by collecting the land revenue in the convenient shape of money, we superseded the old principle of taking it in kind, in certain proportions of the produce, according to the value of the land. This is an ancient and common principle in all countries both East and West, and prevails still in most Eastern States, and in many parts of Europe in the *metayer* system. It is specially suited to small cultivators having little or no capital, and it carries within it a natural check on overpopulation. For, when payment of rent is made by a share of the crop, the cultivator, if he finds that his land requires rest from over-cropping, lets it rest in fallow, as he saves in rent when he leaves the land idle. He must thus hold a larger area than he requires to keep under crop, and this operates against over-density of population. The share of the owner is greater in seasons of abundance, and when the crop fails the cultivator is not called upon to pay what he does not possess. The owner is also interested in rendering the land productive, and is more really to co-operate with the cultivator in such improvements as are calculated to increase the income of both. And there would not be now the same difficulty in India as in former times in realising the owner's share, as roads and railways have opened up markets where it can be readily disposed of." The great merit of the system of collecting the land revenue in kind is that it does not drive the landholder into the hands of the money-lender, and that the productive powers of the land are not impaired by constant over-cropping. These are very great advantages. The introduction of the system of fixed assessment realizable in the shape of money has proved ruinous to the land-holding classes over all tracts of the country. This system lies at the root of the hopeless indebtedness of the Jhansi zemindar as well as of the Deccan ryot. As the fixed Government demand must be paid to the *Sirkar* whether the land has yielded anything or not, the landholder cannot do without borrowing. This is as clear as the noonday sun. Mr. H. G. Keene, in his able article entitled "How are they to live," in the current number of the *Calcutta Review*, shows that the greatest measure of all for the relief of the agricultural classes of Upper India would be a modification in the manner in which the revenue is collected. He writes : "To exact cash from the yeomanry in a country where a family is supported by a holding of from five to ten acres is to throw upon the revenue payers a burden under which they cannot walk. The reply is kept in stereotype. We are told that the British Government pays *employes* in cash, and that it must collect in cash. We are further told that the assesment is so light, *communibus annis*, that the people may well save in a good year the money that they will be required to pay in a bad one. Both these answers are radically untrue. Akbar paid his *employes* in cash, but he collected in kind —except on certain valuable and readily marketable crops such as cotton and sugar, grown for commercial purposes and by persons presumably possessed of resources. The Dutch of Java do not burden their subjects with the risk and trouble of selling their crops. The British themselves do not adopt this course with opium. But there are many crops besides opium which an organization, such as the British Government of India could readily com-

mand, might put into the market far more profitably than the poor peasant. A man growing, let us say, a hundred bushels of wheat a year, cannot arrange to sell his little venture in the best market. He has to pay very little, nominally, for his lands, perhaps fifty rupees. But he has not got so much, but if he were to sell all the jewellry of his wife. He is obliged, therefore, to go to the village before the crop is reaped, and to borrow the money on that security. When the crop is ripe the banker carries it off, and sells it to a wholesale dealer at a price which gives him a large profit, and that dealer divides it among petty chandlers, who dole it out again at fancy prices; so that the man by the sweat of whose brows it was produced has to pay cent. per cent. for a meal of his own grain. All this is perfectly true, and we have little to add to it. The collection of the land revenue in the shape of money has actually ruined the peasantry of Upper India and of the Deccan and the Government should seriously consider the feasibility of reverting to the old system in those parts of the country. The European officials say that it would be impossible to collect the land revenue in kind, as it would largely increase the opportunities for oppression by the lower class of Native officials, and if found by the cultivators. There is much force in this argument. Were it not for this consideration, we would unhesitatingly recommend a return to the old system of collecting the land revenue in kind. To let loose a horde of unscrupulous petty revenue officials on the poor and helpless peasantry would be a serious misfortune to the country. The Government must make adequate arrangements for protecting the agriculturists from the oppression of these officials, before it reverts to the old system of collecting the land revenue in kind; otherwise the remedy, we have no hesitation to affirm, would be worse than the disease. But the system of collecting the revenue in kind is so adapted to the circumstances of a large part of the country and so suitable to the condition of the majority of the people that we conceive it is the bounden duty of the Government to give it a fair trial. The trial, in our opinion, should be made in those districts of the Deccan to which Mr. Hope's Agricultural Relief Act applies. The Maharajah Sindia finds no difficulty in working the system in his territory, and we have the testimony of the British Political Agent at His Highness' Court that its working does not inflict hardship on the cultivators. The resources and organisation of our Government are far superior to those of Sindia, and we do not see any reason why the experiment cannot be fairly tried in British India. But the trial must be made by painstaking officers, who have an intimate personal knowledge of the people; otherwise it cannot succeed. Mr. Caird's proposal to withdraw from peasant proprietors the power of mortgaging their land must stand or fall with the proposal to collect the land revenue in kind. So long as the Government demand has to be paid in the shape of money, the peasant must have the power of mortgaging his land; else the whole machinery of revenue administration will come to a dead-lock. If the power of mortgaging his land be withdrawn from the peasant proprietor, it would be utterly impossible for him to meet the demands of the tax-gatherer in bad years. This is as manifest as the most elementary proposition. If the ryot had no powers to pawn his land, he could not borrow money from the banker. This may be taken for an axiom. If the land revenue be collected in kind, the ryot might do without having recourse to the money lender; and then the withdrawal of the power of mortgaging his land would be a great blessing to him.

We are strongly opposed to Mr. Caird's proposal to encourage landholders to redeem the land tax on their lands. The abandonment of the land revenue, which is the backbone of Indian finance, would be a great calamity to the country. From time immemorial this source of income has been the mainstay of the Indian revenue; if it is given up, the Indian Empire of Her Majesty must collapse. Mr. Caird does not care to consider how the loss of the twenty-one millions sterling now derived from the land revenue is to be made good. The attempt to raise that vast sum of money in some other way will certainly end in a catastrophe. All Asiatic peoples have a notion firmly fixed in their minds that the land revenue ought to suffice for the requirements of the State. It will be remembered that the proposal to allow redemption of the land revenue on a large scale was, after the fullest and most careful consideration, rejected by Sir Charles Wood (now Lord Halifax) in 1862; and the arguments on which he based his opinion were unanswerable and have remained unanswered till this day. We deeply regret for the sake of Mr. Caird's reputation that he should have fallen into the eggregious mistake of proposing to allow the land tax to be redeemed.

Every right-thinking person will agree with Mr. Caird in condemning periodical settlements of the land revenue. He describes in emphatic terms the evils of this system. "As the term of re-assessment approaches," he observes "great anxiety is felt by the cultivators, and many expedients are resorted to with the view of preventing a rise. The cost of a re-assessment is enormous, both in money and time. Many millions sterling have been already spent upon it, and with very doubtful benefit. The officers engaged in many cases admit that they have no special knowledge of the quality or value of land. Nothing more alarms the people than a New survey of their fields." All this is perfectly true. But the remedy he proposes for the evil is a half measure. Mr. Caird would avoid the cost and the harassment to the people, inseparable from periodical regular settlement of the land revenue, by readjusting the Government demand on a review of the village cadastral records, which are framed yearly. But we think that so long as the system of temporary settlements remains in force, a fresh field survey and a fresh classification of soils, will be required on the occasion of every new settlement. The evils inseparable from periodical assessments of the land revenue can only be avoided by an extension of the permanent settlement. We have so often discussed this subject in these columns that we will not recur to it here. The incalculable good which the permanent settlement has done to Bengal is well known to all persons, who have eyes to see and who make use of their organs of vision. Mr. Auckland Colvin, late of the North-West Civil Service, now employed in Egypt, has shown what mischief temporary settlements have been doing in the North-Western Provinces. Mr. H. Phillips of the Bengal Civil Service, who was deputed to Madras on famine duty has in his *Blacker Pamphlet* drawn a vivid picture of the misery of the Madras ryot caused mainly by the revenue system in force in that Presidency; and Mr. David Wedderburn, of the Bombay Civil Service, has demonstrated that the best remedy for the poor and embarassed peasantry of the Deccan is a permanent limitation of the assessment upon land. The greatest measure of all for the relief of the agricultural classes of this country would be an extension of the permanent settlement.

ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES AS A PART OF FAMINE RELIEF PROGRAMME.

IN Chapter II. of the second part of their Report which deals with remedial measures the Famine Commissioners discuss the question as to how far administrative improvements are needed to aid famine relief. They are of opinion that no fundamental changes are required to meet the exigencies of famine relief. They write: "We recognize the fact that the present form of the administration in all parts of India is the result of the slow and gradual growth and development of a system which has been moulded to the ancient institutions of the country; and are satisfied, speaking broadly, that any modifications designed better to meet the case of famines should be framed so as to suit the form of the local civil administration which is found best adapted to ordinary times. We have already stated that all direct measures of famine relief must necessarily be carried out through the ordinary civil district officers, supplemented by such special aid as the temporary urgency of each case may demand; and, beyond this, we are confident that any such modifications of system as are best suited to the requirements of the country in ordinary times are also those which, as far as they go, will most conduce to efficiency in times of distress." Though the present form of the administration in India is the result of long and gradual development of a system adopted after careful consideration, yet experience has shown that it has many serious defects. But the Famine Commissioners do not consider the general question of improving the system of Indian administration. The enquiry undertaken by them is limited in its scope; they merely discuss how far administrative changes are needed to aid famine relief. The principal administrative changes proposed by the Famine Commissioners are the substitution of Commissioners for the Board of Revenue in Madras and the reduction of the size of districts in that Presidency. The first of these proposals is, to our thinking, reasonable. The Commissioners rightly hold that the time has come when the Madras Board of Revenue should be broken up and replaced by Commissioners. Lord Dalhousie was strongly opposed to the maintenance of the cumbrous machinery of Boards which, he thought, impeded the despatch of business. He abolished most of the Boards which had before existed. This was an important reform in the Indian administrative system. The only Boards which escaped the destroying hand of Lord Dalhousie were the Revenue Boards of Bengal, the North-Western Provinces and Madras. The Revenue Boards of Bengal and the North-Western Provinces are now merely Boards in name. In Bengal Sir George Campbell altered the constitution of the Board of Revenue and divided its work between the two members, and the same change was effected in the North-Western Provinces by Sir John Strachey. We would, however, abolish these Boards, and have the members associated with the Lieutenant-Governor as his Councillors. There is no Board of Revenue in Bombay, the supervising officers being Divisional Commissioners. Three such Commissioners manage the whole of the Bombay Presidency, exclusive of Sind. The Madras Board of Revenue consists of three members. These officers, if converted into Divisional Commissioners, will be able to manage the executive work much better than they can do under the present system. We agree with the majority of the Famine Commission that the replacement of the Board of Revenue in Madras by Commissioners "would be in many ways beneficial, and particularly would add to the activity in completeness of local supervision which is so important for successful administration, more especially in time of famine." The proposed change will not involve any additional expenditure. On the contrary, it will eventually result in some savings. We do not, however, approve of the proposal to reduce the size of districts in Madras. The Famine Commissioners say that the area of some of these districts is more than double the size of the districts in other provinces. This statement is not borne out by facts. The area and population of the Madras districts are no doubt larger than those of districts in the North-Western Provinces. But the Madras districts are not large in comparison with Bengal districts. In four of the Madras districts the population exceeds 2 millions, while in the Lower Provinces there are more than a dozen districts having a population of upwards of 2 millions. The area of some of the Madras districts is no doubt large; but we must remember that the work of a district depends not so much upon its area but upon its population. The creation of new districts in Madras will lend to an increase of expenditure, for which there is no necessity. Mr. Charles Elliott, the Secretary to the Famine Commission, who is the real author of its Report, has, we know, always been in favor of reducing the size of Indian districts. While employed as Secretary to the Government of the North-Western Provinces, he framed an elaborate scheme for creating a number of additional districts in those Provinces. The average area of a North-West district is 2,000 square miles and its average population one million. When Mr. Elliott considered such districts to be too large

to be managed efficiently by one set of officers and recommended the creation of a number of new districts, it is no wonder that he should propose the reduction of the size of the Madras districts. But the Government of India, we hope, will not accept a proposal involving additional expenditure when the change is not necessary for administrative reasons.

The Famine Commissioners strongly condemn the present system of promotion by seniority in the Civil Departments of the public service. The general practice with respect to promotion in these departments is that officers rise by seniority till they reach the post of district officers in the executive branch or of District Judge in the judicial branch. The Commissioners are of opinion that the principle of selection should be completely adopted in the appointment of the chief district administrative officers and judges, as these posts involve in the one case executive authority over a large tract of country and a large number of departments, and in the other case supervision and control over many subordinate courts to which is entrusted the decision of important suits. The principle of selection is theoretically perfect; but then it is almost impossible to work it practically with anything like fairness. Though we do not agree with the Duke of Cambridge in thinking that all officers are "much of a muchness," we must say that, taking human nature as it is, selection very often degenerates into downright favouritism and jobbery. The Commissioners suggest some rules for regulating promotion among the members of the Civil Service. They lay down that when in the order of seniority officers become eligible for appointment to the post of collector or judge, their fitness for the office should be considered, and those officers who have not given distinct evidence that they are fit for it should be passed over. When any officer has been declared ineligible for future promotion, the Government should have the power of compelling him to retire on a suitable pension. Again, when an officer having reached the post of collector or district judge fails to give satisfaction in the discharge of the functions of his office, the Government should have the power of declaring him unfit for the post of commissioner or High Court judge and of compelling him to retire from the service on full or proportionate pension. It is strange that the Famine Commissioners do not discuss the financial aspect of the questions. Such vulgar considerations as pounds shillings and pence are evidently beneath their dignity. Why the poor tax-payers of India should be made to provide a suitable pension for an officer, who is considered unfit for the post of collector or judge in order to induce him to retire from the service passes our comprehension, unless, indeed it be that having once been admitted into the heaven-born service he has acquired a sacred claim upon the Indian revenues.

By far the most important proposals of the Famine Commission under this head refer to the subordinate Native Service. They express their opinion that the attention of the Government should be given to the improvement of the subordinate Native agency employed in the numerous public departments of various descriptions; and that such improvement will be best secured by the adoption of better defined rules for the appointment and promotion of these classes of officials. They strongly advocate the adoption of some educational tests. So far so good. But the Famine Commissioners would not recognize any of the existing examinations of the Education Department. They would have a special examination held annually by the officers of the Education Department on the subjects taught in the Government school course for the purpose of testing the fitness of candidates for Government employ. The nature of the examination, the Commissioners think, should be regulated according to the character of the office to be filled. For our part we do not see the necessity of having a special examination for the purpose of testing the fitness of candidates for Government employ. The selections should be made from the published lists of the various University Examinations according to the character of the office to be filled. The number of passed candidates who are pining for suitable employment is already so large that we must deprecate the proposal to hold a special examination for admission to the subordinate posts of the Native service. The late Governor of Bombay Sir Richard Temple shortly before his retirement passed a regulation under which any one who has graduated may become a candidate for the appointment of mamlutdar. We noticed this regulation at the time it was drawn up. Under it a registered candidate for the appointment of mamlutdar (as tahsildars in Bombay are called) is posted as second clerk to a clerk to a taluk or tahsil and learns his work for a year, after which he is entitled to be promoted to the office of head clerk. After serving in this capacity for six months and passing a departmental examination, he is entitled to a mamlutdar's appointment. The Famine Commissioners approve of this system and think that with some modifications it might be applied to all provinces with advantage. The only objection we have to the Bombay system as we said at the time, is that it makes candidates for the subordinate executive service begin life as amla. Men who have breathed the tainted atmosphere of amladom become, to our thinking, unfitted for employment in superior and responsible offices. Knowledge of office routine can be acquired by a properly educated man in a very short time. This is often overlooked by those who attach undue importance to official experience. Covenanted Assistants do not begin life as amla; and yet they acquire the necessary knowledge of office routine in a few months.

THE BRITISH INDIAN ASSOCIATION ON THE COMING BUDGET.

THE British Indian Association have submitted a representation to the Government of India on the coming Budget. The letter covers five points, I. the application of the provincial revenue to local proposes, II. the License tax, III. the Famine Insurance Fund, IV. the Cotton duties, V. Military Expenditure. With regard to the first point, after dwelling on the prosperity of the provincial treasury the Association remark that "though the provincial exchequer of Bengal is flourishing pressure has been brought to bear upon it by the Government of India to the serious detriment of local improvement. When the five years' contract was made with the local Government under the new system of provincial finance, it was distinctly understood that whatever the fruits of good management of provincial revenue, they would be enjoyed by the tax-payers of the provinces during the currency of the contract. Various improvements in provincial administration, such as the establishment of appellate benches, the extention of primary education, the erection of proper court-houses and the like, were postponed or checked, while the embargo put by Parliament upon imperial expenditure on productive public works though not strictly applicable to provincial finance, has been made to apply to the execution of local public works, calculated to improve communication, to foster local trade, and to contribute to the development of the resources of the soil, though the provincial fund is quite able to provide for the cost of such works. On the other hand, the Government of India has levied extra contributions from the Provincial Government for the purposes of the Affghan War and the Famiue in other provinces in contravention of its contract. Within the last two years it has taken 20 lakhs from the Bengal Government, and a further demand, it is rumoured, has been made upon it. The action of the Government of India has thus neutralized the advantages of the new system of provincial finance." Neither the tax-payers of Bengal nor the local Government, the Association remark, suspected that such would be the result of the freedom of financial administration accorded to the local Governments under the Decentralization system, while it has been attended with increased taxation. With regard to the License tax the Association quote a mass of official opinion showing that it is unsuited to the circumstances of the people of this country. They say that the facts given show conclusively that this tax, which is a tremendous engine of annoyance, injustice, oppression and demoralization, should not be retained. The yield of this tax is again so inadequate, estimated at a little more than half a crore per annum. that it is well worthy of the consideration of His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General in Council as to whether such a fruitful source of dissatisfaction and discontent should be retained for such a small financial return. The general prosperity of the finances, the Association think, would fully justify the repeal of this obnoxious tax. Should, however, the Government of India for financial reasons consider themselves unable to dispense with the license tax, and should it be absolutely necessary to continue it for a time, the Association urge that it may be placed on an equitable basis, as far as practicable, and rendered uniform and general in its incidence, so as to include within its scope the official and professional classes, to whom the settled rule of the British Government has been a source of so much profit and advantage. If the landed classes are made to pay in the shape of land cesses and the merchant, the trader, and the artizan, to contribute in the shape of the license tax, it is but fair that the official, who sell his labour to the State, and the professional person, who makes his living by the employment of his wit and acquirements, should be called upon to bear a legitimate share of the burdens of the State. It is also observable that if the License tax is to form a part of the fiscal system of the country, it ought to be applied to the purposes for which it was originally designed. The Association say that they will not dwell on the history of the License tax and the Famine cesses, constituting the basis of a Famine Insurance Fund, on the reasons for the formation of that fund, and on the dissatisfaction and discontent which the breach of faith thus involved has evoked. In justice to the tax-payers and to the Government itself, the Association urge, that the Famine Insurance Fund should be restored, and, as originally promised, it should be "religiously" applied to famine purposes. Entertaining this view they suggest that the Famine Insurance Fund be made a statutory fund, and that it be set apart for the relief of the sufferers from the Famine in future, that until the necessity for such appropriation of the Fund should arise its annual proceeds be invested in Government securities, so that it may form a sort of reserve fund to be drawn upon on the recurrence of a famine. We need make no apology for reproducing the following remarks of the Association on the cotton duties:

The policy of Government regarding the import duties on cotton goods has been a subject of much discussion. There are three aspects of this question, commercial, financial and political. The experience of the last two years has shown that the import duties were not of a character to protect local manufactures, and that was the *opinion of a great* number of persons familiar with the subject. But in the face of strong opposing opinion it was deemed expedient and consistent with the free trade policy of England to abolish them, and in that view Lord Northbrook's Government in 1875 exempted the lower cotton goods from the import duty. In 1878 Lord Lytton's Government held that that measure had not been complete, and they accordingly extended the exemption to certain other cotton goods. Thus the import duty as far as it could possibly be supposed to have served as a protective duty ceased to exist. But in 1879 the Government went further and exempted cotton goods of yarns not finer than 30s. and thus surrendered an annual revenue of about £200,000. No plea of removal of protection could be urged in favour of this measure. The recognized organs of the European mercantile community in this country were of the same opinion. Thus the Bengal Chamber of Commerce remarked at the time, that they "could see no special claim that cotton goods and yarns, of descriptions not manufactured in India, have for relief over other articles that are as useful to the people and as necessary for their comfort and well-being." They added:—"If the depressions of a given industry in England be a sufficient reason for the abolition of duties upon such portion of the products of that industry as may be imported into India, it appears to the Committee that woollens, metals, and hardware have, at least, an equal claim to liberal consideration; for the depression in these trades commenced at an earliar date and has been as severe in its character." The Madras Chamber was still more emphatic. This measure had been evidently undertaken as a step in advance of the total abolition of the import duties on cotton goods. So the commercial reason for this partial remission of the cotton duty failed. But practically this measure has had the effect of protecting one class of Lancashire goods against another. Seeing that all goods of yarns not finer than 30s. would be duty free, the manufacturers have generally directed their industry to this class of goods, and the result is that cloths made of yarns slightly finer than 30s. are handicapped with duty. The Government did not doubtless contemplate this sort of protection of one class of Manchester manufactures to the detriment of another, but it has not been able to stem the tide, when it has been allowed to set in. But the partial remission of the duty has given satisfaction to nobody. The manufacturer is not satisfied, because it has caused a great disturbance to his manufacturing arrangements; the merchant is not satisfied, because it has, by encouraging the admixture of fine with coarse yarns with a view to avoid the duty, rendered him

liable to heavy penalties; the customs-house official is not satisfied, because while he considers it his duty to protect the Government revenue by checking fraud and deceit, his motive is misconstrued; while the Indian tax-payer is not satisfied, because a considerable revenue has been wantonly sacrificed. The influx of duty-free goods has certainly been very large since the remission of the duty, but the Committee are informed by the highest commercial authority in this city that the remission of the 5 per cent duty has not benefited the consumer in India, because the increased importations have not lowered the prices of the goods affected. Thus the only ground, on which the remission of the duty could have been justified viz, the good of the people, has not been realized. It is also observable that the consumption of country cloths has not been in the least checked by increased importations of grey goods from England. If the duty thus remitted had a protective tendency, such would not surely have been the result. So much for the commercial aspect of the question.

After discussing the financial aspect of the question the Association thus hold forth on its political aspect:

The political aspect of the question is certainly the most serious. It is nothing more nor less than the sentiments, feelings, and interests of the whole people of India arrayed against the interests of a few manufacturers of Lancashire. Here is a source of revenue the most unobjectionable because it yields a substantial income, it does not press upon any class of the population, it is not attended with injustice, hardship or oppression; as the remission of the 5 per cent. duty already made shews its abandonment will not benefit the Indian consumer in the least; on the contrary, though the financial condition of India is not altogether sound, the sacrifice the surrender of the cotton duties would involve would practically have the effect of making a present of some three quarters of a million to the rich manufacturers of Lancashire; and as the people of India are not in a position to make this sacrifice, they naturally complain. If the interests of the whole United Kingdom were concerned it might be worthy of consideration whether India should not yield to a cry, however selfish, of the governing country. But when only a handful of the British public, however rich and powerful, are concerned, is it meet, it is right, is it just that the interests of two hundred millions of Her Majesty's loyal subjects, poor but devoted and grateful subjects in India should be sacrificed, and their feelings and sentiments set at naught? It is not for the Committee of the British Indian Association, speaking on behalf of these millions, to venture to advise the Government in a matter like this; but they do not hesitate to appeal to His Excellency the Viceroy in Council to consider this question not from a narrow sectional point of view to which Lancashire would limit it, but in that broad, enlightened and impartial spirit which befits the representative of a Sovereign, in whose dominion the sun never sets; whose beneficent sceptre sways hundreds of millions of many nationalities, creeds and countries; whose glorious mission it is to do even-handed justice to them all irrespective of distinctions of race, religion, and colour; and who seeks solace in the advancement of their welfare and happiness.

The last point is military expenditure. The Association observe that no branch of public expenditure presents such a promising field for work as the Army. Lord Lytton's Government were fully alive to this subject, and they appointed a Commission to report on army reform and retrenchment. Their report, the Committee believe, is still before the Government of India. They sincerely and earnestly hope and pray that His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General in Council will strongly urge upon the Home Government, on behalf of the people of India, the imperative necessity of such reform in the British Indian Army as may combine economy with efficiency.

The several points raised in the memorial of the Association are thus very important, and we hope Major Baring in framing his Budget will give them due attention.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES

IT AFFORDS us great pleasure to be able to announce that His Excellency the Viceroy has resolved to repeal the Vernacular Press Act. As stated in some of the London papers a Despatch has actually come out from the Secretary of State urging the Viceroy in Council to consider the propriety of giving a quietus to that obnoxious measure. A special meeting of the Executive Council was held last month for the consideration of the despatch, and although there was some difference of opinion in Council on the subject, we believe the ultimate decision has been in favour of repeal. Lord Ripon is personally opposed to the continuance of the Act. A statesman of broad and liberal views his Lordship does not, as might be expected, consider that the best way to bind India to England, is to repress the freedom of speech and writing. The blessings of British rule, notwithstanding shortcomings here and there, are so patent that we believe His Excellency is convinced that no really educated and honestly patriotic native would prove disloyal to it or countenance aught, which would tend to foster disloyalty. His Excellency, we are inclined to think, would therefore leave it to the good sense, loyalty, and moderation of educated natives to regulate the tone and character of criticisms in the Vernacular Press on public measures and public men. We have no doubt that the conductors of the Vernacular Press and the native community at large will feel deeply grateful to Lord Ripon for his generous views and wishes. By repealing the Vernacular Press Act His Excellency will redeem a pledge of the Liberal party, which had naturally enough raised high hopes through the whole length and breadth of the land. Even if His Excellency should be unable to do more during his Viceroyalty of India, which we hope not, for we do verily believe that the moment His Excellency will be released from his Affghan troubles, he will devote his undivided attention to the improvement of domestic administration, this single measure will enshrine his name in the grateful recollections of the people of this country.

We believe last week's mail carried to England Lord Ripon's reply to the Despatch of the Secretary of State for India on the subject. A Bill will be introduced in the Legislative Council to repeal the Vernacular Press Act. We believe it is intended to introduce the Bill when the Council meets again in Calcutta. Opportunity we hear will be taken to consider whether alterations are needed in the provisions of the Indian Penal Code relating to writings of seditious or libellous character, and if so, in what form they should be made. In this way it is hoped the law relating to such writings will be placed on a definite, permanent, and satisfactory basis. Of course until we see the alterations proposed we cannot say how far they are required, or calculated to accomplish the object aimed at. But we have the fullest confidence in Lord Ripon's judgment, moderation, and generous instincts, and feel convinced that His Lordship will not seal with his sanction any measure, which would have the remotest tendency to fetter freedom of expression. As the local Governments will have to be consulted on the subject of the proposed alterations—the decision arrived at regarding the repeal of the Act is we believe final—there will be some delay in introducing the Bill, but the delay we believe will not be of material consequence. The Act has practically remained a dead letter, and there is no fear that it will not continue so in the interval. The Act cannot be put into active operation without the consent of the Governor General in Council, and we need hardly add that Lord Ripon, entertaining the strong opinion he does on the subject, will not hastily give his consent. We are, however, of opinion that the proposed Bill may be introduced at Simla and passed in Calcutta. This course will give the public ample time to consider the alterations contemplated. In the meantime we think the Despatch of the Secretary of State and the reply of the Government of India thereto may well be published for general information. The publication of these papers will have a good moral effect.

THE STATUE of the late Maharaja Romanath Tagore C. S. I. has arrived and has been put up in the Town Hall. The ceremony of unveiling the statue will be performed by His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor on Saturday next at 5 P. M.

WE ARE GLAD to learn that the Presidency College has carried away the palm in Sanskrit this year. Babu Harihur Laburi of the Presidency College, who stands first at the B. A. examination of this year, receives the Raja Radhakant gold medal. A feather to the cap of Babu Rajkrishna Bannerjea, Professor of Sanskrit in the Presidency College! He may well feel proud of the success, which his pupil has achieved.

THE RENT BILL Conference of the British Indian Association is in full swing. We take the following report from the *Englishman*:

PURSUANT to notice a Conference of landholders for the consideration of the Rent Bill was held in the rooms of the British Indian Association, on Monday, the 28th February 1881.

Maharaja Narendra Krishna Bahadur, President of the Association, was in the chair.

The following districts were represented at the Conference by Zemindars, either in person or by their delegates:—

Behar.—The Hon'ble the Maharaja Luchmessur Singh, Maharajah of Durbhanga; Munshi Mahomed Amir (Patna); Babu Saligram Singh (Shahabad); Babu Joyprokash Lal (Dumraon); Babu Surja Naryan Sing (Bhaugulpore); Babu Guruprosaud Sen, Secretary, Behar Landholders' Association; Babu Uma Churn Dass, delegate of Roy Sham Lal Mittra, Gya.

East Bengal.—Babu Purno Chunder Banerji, Secretary, East Bengal Landholders' Association; Babu Kelly Prosunno Ghose, Manager, Bhawal Estate; Babu Gopal Chunder Chatterji, delegate of Babu Gobind Chunder Roy, Dacca; Babu Gobindo Chunder Dutt, Dacca; Furreddudin Ahmed, and Newab Mir Mahomed Ali, Furridpore; Babu Mokund Nath Roy, delegate of Babu Dwarka Nath Roy, Mymensingh; Mr. P. L. Roy, Secretary, Burrisal Landholders' Association; Babu Luckhi Kant Roy, delegate of Babu Keshub Chunder Sanyal Chowdhry, Mymensing; Babu Girja Sunkur Mozumdar, for self and delegate of Babu Shamsunker Mozumdar, Furridpore; Babu Biressur Das, delegate of Golam Ali Chowdhry, Backergunge; Babu Dijendra Nath Sanyal, Pubna.

North Bengal.—Rajah Promotho Nath Roy Bahadur, Dighaputia; Babu Raj Mohun Sircar, Secretary, Rajshahye Association; Babu Tara Nath Chowdhry, Lahore; Babu Kalli Kissore Munshi, Bogra; Babu Chandra Kissore Munshi, Bogra; Babu Mothura Nath Roy, delegate of Babu Rummoni Mohun Roy Chowdhry, Rai Bahadur, Rungpore; Babu Broja Nath Bhumik, delegate of Babu Luchmun Chunder Giri Gossain, Bogra, Babu Bepinchunder Sanyal, Bogra, Babu Sosadhur Roy, delegate of Raja Krisendranath Roy, Bolihar, Rajshye.

Chittagong.—Babu Okhil Chunder Sen, delegate of the Chittagong Association.

Sylhet.—Babu Joygovind Shome, for Sylhet Zemindars.

Nuddea.—Rai Jadunath Roy Bahadur, Babu Porsunno Chunder Roy, Babu Nuffur Chunder Pal Chowdhry, delegates appointed at a public meeting; Mir Mussarruff Hossein, Kushtea.

Jessore.—Mr. J. H. Rainey, Moulvi Abdul Huq, Babu Kunjolal Mukerji, delegate of Babu Gobind Chunder Roy, Nurral.

24-*Pergunnahs.*—Babu Boikanto Nath Bose, Boroe; Babu Charu Chunder Mullik, Babu Dwarka Nath Mukerji, Babu Ashutosh Dhur.

Murshidabad.—Babu Grish Chunder, delegate of Babu Ramdas Sen; Babu Manik Chunder Chowdhry, delegate of Rajah Jogender Narayan Roy, Lalgolla.

Hughly.—Babu Rajendra Narayan Nundy, Sbagunge; Babu Nundlal Gossain, delegate of Babu Gopi Kisto Gossain, Serampore; Babu Bejoykissen Mukerji, Otterparah.

Midnapore.—Babu Ashutosh Dhur, delegate of Kumar Mohender Nath Khan.

Orissa.—Babu Nemy Churn Bose, Rai Bahadur, Balasore.

Sonthal Pergunnahs.—Babu Manik Churn Roy, delegate of Maharajah Gopal Singh, Moheshpore.

Calcutta.—The Hon'ble the Maharajh Jotendra Mohun Tagore Bahadur, C. S. I. (24-Pergunnahs, Hughly, Nuddea, Jessore, Furridpore, Rungpore, Dinagepore, Rajshaye, Pubna, Sonthal Pergunnahs, Midnapore, Murshidabad, Bogra, Dacca); Maharaja Narendra Krishna, (24-Pergunnahs, Hughly and Tipperah); Babu Chunder Kali Ghose, delegate of Maharaja Kamal Krishna, (24-Pergunnahs, Hughly, Tipperah); Babu Joykissen Mukerji and Hon'ble Peary Mohun Mukerji (24-Pergunnahs, Hughly, Burdwan, Midnapore and Birbhum); Babu Mohunlal Mitter, Rai Bahadur (24-Pergunnahs and Gya); Babu Nund Lal Bose (24-Pergunnahs and Gya.)

Numerous letters were received from zemindars and others in the Mofussil sympathising with the movement and giving their opinion on the salient points of the Rent Bill.

The Conference was of a delicate character. No speeches were made. The Conference will sit till the most important points of the Bill are discussed.

The Conference commenced on Monday last; three sittings were held during last week. Some of the salient points of the Bill were discussed.

THE ANNUAL CONVERSAZIONE of the Mahomedan Literary Society has become an institution of the land. It affords a common platform to the rulers and the ruled to meet for intellectual recreation. The highest in the land lend it their patronage, and the educated members of the native community are not slow to take advantage of it. Newab Abdul Luteef deserves much credit for bringing about so successfully every year this social and intellectual gathering. The last *Conversazione* was as usual a great success. His Excellency the Viceroy, His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, the Chief Justice and other high personages honored the occasion with their presence, and mixed freely with the gentlemen assembled. Some of our well known scientists contributed to the instruction and amusement of the assembly. Rev. Father Lafont, Rai Kanyelal Dey Bahadur, and his son, Babu Preolal Dey, Babu Taraprosunno Roy, Mr. Wiesse of the Government Telegraph Department and others made instructive and interesting scientific experiments There were also rich collections of glass manufacture, miniature paintings, and other objects of interest.

WE THINK the Government will instill a wholesome sense of duty into the press and our Mofussil hakims, if it will systematically follow up cases of vagaries and abuses of authority by Mofussil officers exposed in the press. If the statements in the press prove incorrect, repara-

tion will be made to the officers unjustly attacked, but if they prove to be correct, the results of the enquiries made ought to be published, and such publicity is sure to have a good moral effect upon the Bahadurs, who wield the destinies of the people. We congratulate the *Indian Mirror* on the result of the enquiry into the conduct of Mr. Mosley in the now notorious *Bil* case of Moorshedabad. Although the official version is naturally subdued in its tone, the facts set forth by our contemporary are substantially admitted. It was stated that Mr. Mosley had given a rebuff to the Deputy Magistrate, Babu Guruchurn Das, who originally tried the case for "asking him to allow the Government Pleader to appear for the prosecution, as the fishery was a Government one and the Government was interested in the case." Mr. Mosley, we are told by Mr. Peacock, refused the application, saying that "the employment of the Government Vakil was forbidden, and that he considered that the Deputy Magistrate was quite capable of looking after the interests of Government." Of course much depends upon the words employed by Mr. Mosley, and the Government has not placed at the disposal of the press the papers referred to. Mr. Peacock admits that the "wording" of the Magistrate's order was a "little clumsy." We must take exception to the remark of Mr. Mosely that the Deputy Magistrate was "quite capable of looking after the interests of Government." It is not the duty of a judicial officer, we submit, to "look after the interests of Government," but to deal out even-handed justice between Government and individual parties. But let that pass. Then after the case was dismissed by the Deputy Magistrate, the Magistrate refused a petition for review, but immediately after took up the case *de novo*, "feeling that the matter should be settled one way or another to prevent a breach of the peace." In this it is admitted the Magistrate was wholly wrong, because the High Court quashed the Magistrate's order on the ground that "there was nothing to show that there was an apprehension of a breach of the peace, and that, therefore, the whole proceedings were bad." Lastly, it was alleged that an amla of the Magistrate was interested in the fishery. Mr. Peacock finds that there were good reasons for believing that "Tariny Churn was a partner with Mohim Chunder in the fishery, as well as in other things, though there was no conclusive proof. It is certain, however, that he took advantage of his position in the office to get out in a surreptitious manner papers which he had no right to take, and which he thought would be useful to Mohim Chunder. As soon as this was discovered, Tariny Churn Mozumdar was suspended for two months, but on its expiration, he was not allowed to return to his former appointment of kash mehal mohurir. Tariny Churn appealed to this office and to the Board, but his appeals were rejected. He has since been transferred to the Nuddea district." As for the boundaries of the *Bil* Mr. Peacock holds that the view taken by Mr. Mosley is right; supposing that it is so, it is a matter for the civil court and not for a criminal court to decide, and Mr. Mosley was therefore wholly wrong in instructing the Police to interfere. The charges against Mr. Mosley in our humble opinion are fully substantiated. We do not know what view the Government takes of his conduct, because it has published the report of Mr. Peacock without any remarks thereon. In justice to our contemporary, it ought to have given out its own opinion on the facts elicited by the enquiry.

WHILE we readily support our contemporary of the *Indian Mirror* in his attempt to shew up Mr. Mosley in his true colors, we must frankly say that we cannot approve of the course he is pursuing by representing Lord Ripon as an antagonist of Sir Ashley Eden. It is gross injustice to the Viceroy to say that he has taken up a position of antagonism to the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. Far from that being the case, we believe the most cordial relations subsist between His Excellency and His Honor. Lord Ripon has, indeed, the highest respect for Sir Ashley Eden's distinguished talents and abilities, ripe experience, administrative tact and vigour, and the courage of his convictions. It is not true as stated by our contemporary that His Excellency has interfered in any way directly or indirectly with the affairs of the Burdwan Raj. We are credibly informed that the young Maharaja of Burdwan has given up his projected visit to England under the advice of the Lieutenant-Governor and not at the instance of the Viceroy. Then His Excellency has not interfered with the appointments to the Subordinate Executive Service made by the Lieutenant-Governor. None can be more jealous than we are of the right of our countrymen to employment in the public service. We have always advocated that right to the best of our ability. It was we who first pointed out the injustice of excluding natives from the higher appointments in the Opium Department. Only last week we said that it was enough that the opium sale was a monopoly, but that surely the opium service should not be a monopoly of the white man. But as regards the appointments of Europeans and Eurasians to the Subordinate Executive Service proper, we must do Sir Ashley Eden the justice to say that the preference shewn to them is less rampant in the present *regime* than it was in the past. The Local Government is not, however, quite unfettered in this matter. The Secretary of State in his despatch on the employment of natives, while admitting that these have an "inherent right" to uncovenanted appointments, included Eurasians and Europeans domiciled in India in the term "native." In common fairness we must say that those Europeans, who have made India their home, are entitled to some share of the loaves and fishes of the State.

MR. MOSLEY it would seem is determined to drag himself deeper and deeper into the mire. In common with our contemporaries we noticed the attempt made by him to evade the orders of Government in the great *Budzati* case to explain matters to Babu Utul Chunder Chatterjea. We now hear that the Government has called upon him to submit an explanation upon the subject. We hope the Lieutenant-Governor is by this time satisfied of what stuff Mr. Mosley is made.

Darlington's Pain-Curer has been found to be a certain cure for Pains on the Back, Lumbago, Pains in the Chest, Sore Throats, Coughs, Colds, Tightness of the Chest, Bronchitis, Diptheria, Headache, Toothache, Earache, Neuralgia, Colics, Rheumatism, Paralysis, Pains in the Groins, Contracted Joints, Gout, Sciatica, Bad Legs, Bad Breasts, Swellings, Old Sores, Ulcers, Piles, Ringworm, Pimples, Freckles, & Eruptions on the skin. May be had retail or wholesale, direct from their Establishment, 49, Dhurrumtollah, Street, Calcutta.

☞ Beware of other worthless imitations.

DR. DE JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL.—ITS UNEQUALLED EFFICACY IN CONSUMPTION AND WASTING DISEASES.—Dr. Henry Hanks, author of "Consumption: its Treatment and Curability," writes:—"The superior efficacy of Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil over the Pale Cod Liver Oil has proved, in my experience, unequivocal. Patients who have persisted for several months in the use of the latter, with scarcely any perceptible improvement, have, after brief trial of Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil, acquired such fatness, and those distressing symptoms accompanying emaciation have so rapidly subsided, that I have been induced to confide in its reputed remedial powers, and consequently to advise its substitution for the Pale Cod Liver Oil." Benjamin Clarke, Esq., M.R.C.S., F.L.S., author of "Notes and Suggestions on Cod Liver Oil and its Uses," writes:—"The effect of the Pale Oil on the circulation is so feebly marked as not to be perceptible; so that in some cases of extreme debility, the patient, from the slowness of its action, is in danger of sinking from exhaustion, or the disease, as in consumption, may become incurable from protraction. My inference agrees with the remark that Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Oil effects a cure in half the time that the Pale Oil does." Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold only in capsuled imperial half-pints, pints, and quarts, by all chemists druggists and store-keepers. Sole Consignees, Ansar Harford and Co., 77, Strand, London.

COMMERCIAL.

(FROM OUR COMMERCIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

Saturday, 5th March, 1881.

The aspect of commercial affairs remained almost the same as before, and transactions in consequence have been confined within narrow limits chiefly in import piece-goods. The flat tone which has hitherto been prevailing in this market is likely to continue for some time to come and dealers are quite unwilling to operate even at lower rates. Their hands being hampered with large stocks, prices for almost all descriptions of cottons have had a downward tendency.

Yarns.—Import kinds continued to be neglected whilst country manufactures found buyers at previous rates but on a moderate scale. Exports.—There have been some movements in this department but within a limited extent,

Tea.—On the 3rd instant at the public sale 1896 chests were offered, all found buyers except 34 chests, at easier rates in consequence of the bulk of the Tea being of an inferior quality. In Jute there has been a falling-off in the demand and prices have had an easier tendency. Present quotations for low to good 3-12 @ 5-2.

Oil-Seeds.—Nothing of importance has transpired in this market.

Rice.—About 52000 bags of 2 munds each of the undermentioned qualities found buyers at the following rates:

Table Seeta	...	3-15	@	4
Do Sifted	...	3	„	3-2
Do Gross	...	2-4	„	2-8
Ballam	...	1-12	„	1-15-6
Moonghy	...	1-11	„	1-13
Raree	...	1-6	„	1-12
Kajla	..	1-3	„	1-15
Kharee	...	1-4	„	1-6

Prices, as compared with those ruled at this time last year, are much lower.

MONETARY.

There has been a better demand for money and further withdrawals from the Bank of Bengal induced the directors at their last meeting to raise 1 per cent. in the rates of interest and discount all round—the present 6% on disposit of Government Securities at the BAZAR at 3 % have been ruling.

GOVT. SECURITIES.

Have had various fluctuations during the week, at the close prices dropped to as follow:

4%	...	100-2	@	100-4
4-½	...	109-2	„	109-4

JOINT-STOCK SHARES.

Nothing of importance has transpired in this market the I. G. S. N. Co., who have declared a dividend of 12% or Rs. 120 per share for the past half year.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

MOFUSSIL SUBSCRIPTIONS.	Rs.	As.	P.
P. DeCruze Esq., BANAKHAL	8	o	o
A. Shashia Shastree Esq., COMBACONUM	13	4	o
Fyzabad Anjuman Tahzeb	1o	o	o
P. Smith Esq., C. S., Katlee	13	4	o
Secretary M. I. Society, Mayaveram	2	3	o
Syud Mohamed Ali Khan, BHAUGULPORE	13	4	o
Secretary Reading Club, Maisadol	5	o	o
Manager, Native Opinion, BOMBAY	9	8	o
Baboo Bindoolal Ghose, BUDGE BUDGE	13	4	o
„ Jogobundoo Das, Luckhipur	6	1o	o
„ Atoolkrishna BOSE	6	1o	o
„ Bepinbehary chatterji, Kalain	6	o	o
„ Hemchunder BANERJI, Myanoung	13	4	o
„ Kissorymohan chatterji, Rungpur	1o	o	o
„ Kadarnath Chatterji, Midnapur	13	4	o
„ Muddonmohan Missre, BHAGULPUR	1	2	o
„ Bakhtwar Lal, Aligurh	13	o	o
„ Parsuram Khound, Debroogurh	1o	o	o
„ BASUNTCOOMAR NEWGI, BANCOORAH	1o	o	o
„ Kylashchunder BOSE, Manickgunge	13	4	o
„ Kylashchunder Mookerji, Muzufferpur	13	4	o
„ Goneshchunder Mohapatar, Kilia	15	o	o
„ Anundnath Roy, Dinagepur	13	o	o
„ Ramessarnath, Krishnagur	2o	o	o
„ Rajendralal COOWAR, Vastara School	6	1o	o
„ Ramgopal Singh Chowdry, Kandi	13	4	o
„ Ravatichurn BANERJEE, Dacca	6	8	o
„ Gungadinath Mookerji, Dacca	3	o	o
„ Girindromohan chuckerbutty, BHANGA	1o	o	o
„ Goneshchunder chowdry, Rajshahye	13	4	o

Government Notifications.

Calcutta Gazette,—*March* 2, 1881.

GENERAL.—The orders of the 28th ultimo granting three months' privilege leave of absence to Mr. C. S. Bayley, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, are cancelled,

The services of Babu Rajkishore Narain, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Shahabad, are placed at the disposal of the Board of Revenue for employment in the management of the Escheated Estates in Gya, *vice* Babu Bemola Churn Bhuttacharjee.

This cancels the orders of the 18th November last, transferring Babu Rajkishore Narain to Durbhunga.

Mr. W. R. Larminie, C.S., reported his return from furlough on the 20th instant.

Babu Gopal Chunder Mitter, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Manbhoom, is allowed leave for one month, under the rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 1st proximo, or such subsequent date as he may avail himself of it.

Babu Hem Chunder Mookerjee, temporary Sub-Deputy Collector, employed on embankment surveys in Midnapore, is also appointed to be a Sub-Deputy Collector in the district of Burdwan and Hooghly.

Babu Hem Chunder Mookerjee is vested with the powers of an Assistant Superintendent under Act V (B.C.) of 1875, and of a Collector under Regulation VII of 1822.

Mr. J. Beames is appointed to act as Commissioner of the Burdwan Division, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. T. E. Ravenshaw or until further orders.

Mr. C. S. Bayley Assistant Magistrate and Collector, 24-Pergunnahs, is appointed to act as Under Secretary to the Government of Bengal in the General and Revenue Departments, during the absence, on deputation of Mr. C. W. Bolton, or until further orders with effect from the 28th ultimo.

Advertisements.

CALCUTTA UNIVERSITY.

NOTICE.

It is hereby notified for general information that a Convocation of the University of Calcutta will be held at the Senate House on Saturday, the 19th March at 4 P. M.

Graduates of the University in academic costume are admissible on presenting themselves at the Senate House at 3 P. M.

Senate House, The 4th March 1881. } CHARLES H. TAWNEY, Registrar.

P. W. D.

Wanted for employment on Sonthal Road Works.

2 Overseers, Pay Rs. 160 per mensem.
2 Sub-Overseers, Pay Rs. 60 per mensem.
2 Ditto Pay Rs. 50 per mensem.

Only competent men need apply to

Executive Engineer,
Bhaugulpore Division,
Bhaugulpore.

Dated 4th March 1881.

Notice.

Sealed Tenders are invited by the Surgeon Superintendent of the Presidency General Hospital for the supply of Provisions, wines, clothing and miscellaneous articles to that Institution from the 1st April 1881 to 31st March 1882.

All particulars with blank form of Tender can be obtained at the Hospital between the hours of 8 and 10 A. M.

Tenders are to be addressed to the Surgeon Superintendent, General Hospital. They will be received up to the 21st of March and opened on the morning of the 22nd of March 1881.

J. JONES, M. D., Surgeon Major,
Calcutta Ceneral Hospital, } Surgeon Superintendent
The 1st March 1881. }

JUST PUBLISHED.

THE

CALCUTTA MAGAZINE.

FOR

MARCH.

BRIMMING OVER WITH GOOD READING.

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Poetry and Poets	Administration of Justice
Anecdotes of Ministers	An old Maids Lecture
The Poet's Corner	Pirate sherry
Wanted—A wife	Death of English Kings
What makes a woman	The end of the Honey moon
Thy labor is not in vain	The fakir of Jacko
Correspondence	What is love
Chaperons	Cheats and Sharpers in Calcutta
Literary Notices	New way of spelling
In the City of Palaces	The grievance monger
The Indian Retrospect	A horrible crime and its punishment
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Mother Shipton's lugubrious prohecy	A child's reason
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☞ Price Re. 1. Outstation residents may send a rupee's worth of half anna postage stamps in their letters, to the

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No More Pains!!!

DARLINGTON'S PAIN CURER

WARRANTED to cure pains of every description arising from whatever cause, on any part of the human frame. A certain cure for Pains in the Back, Lumbago Pains in the Chest, Sore Throats, Coughs, Colds, Mumps, Tightness of the Chest, Bronchitis, Diptheria, Headache, Toothache, Earache, Neuralgia, Colics. Rheumatism, Paralysis, Pains in the Groins, Contracted Joints, Gout, Sciatica, Bad Legs, Bad Breasts, Swellings, Old Sores, Ulcers, Piles, Ringworm, Pimples and Eruptions on the Skin.

Many of the best Physicians of the day prescribe Darlington's Pain-Curer in the very worst forms of these ailments, with success.

Pains of every description have been cured by the use of Darlington's Pain-Curer when all other medicines have been tried without effect.

Per bottle, Re. 1; large size, Rs. 2; Packing As. 8.

The words PAIN-CURER & NO MORE PAINS!!! are our Trade Marks. DARLINGTON & CO.,
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NEW CIVIL PROCEDURE CODE

AND OTHER ACTS. DARLINGTON & CO.
49, Dhurmtollah Street, Calcutta.

NATAL EMIGRATION AGENCY.

Offers are invited for the purchase of the materials used in constructing the Cooley Sheds to be seen at 67 Garden Reach.

H. A. FIRTH,
Emigration Agent for Natal.

NOTIFICATION.

To be peremptorily sold by the Registrar of the High Court of Judicature at Fort William in Bengal in its Ordinary Original Civil Jurisdiction in his sale room in the Court House on Saturday the twenty-sixth day of March next at the hour of twelve o'clock at noon pursuant to a decree of the said Court made in Suit No. 44 of 1879 (wherein the Administrator General of Bengal and the Administrator to the Estate of Buttokisto Dass deceased is Plaintiff and Albert Bermingham Miller official assignee and assignee to the Estate of Denonauth Dutt an Insolvent is defendant) and dated the twenty-seventh day of February one thousand eight hundred and seventy-nine the following property belonging to the estate of the said Denonauth Dutt.

All those two storied brick-built building together with the piece or parcel of land thereunto belonging and on part whereof the same is erected and built containing by estimation nine cattahs or thereabouts be the same little more or less situate to and being No. 109 formerly numbered 14/1 Ahecreetollah Street in the Town of Calcutta and butted and bounded as follows, on the north by a public drain on the east partly by the house of Gobind Chunder Day and partly by a private drain, on the south by a common passage leading to the said and other house and the Ahecreetollah Street and on the west partly by the houses of Ramnarain Seal and Hollodhur Chunder deceased.

The conditions of sale and the abstract of title may be seen at the office of the Registrar, High Court, Original Side or at the office of Messrs. Swinhoe Law and Company the attornies for the Plaintiff on any day before the sale and will be produced at the sale.

SWINHOE LAW & Co., *Plaintiffs Attorney.* Calcutta High Court, Original Side, The 17th February, 1881. } Sd. R. BELCHAMBERS, *Registrar.*

NOTICE.

With a view to remove the difficulty and inconvenience which the public in the Mofusil feel in getting books, stationery, chairs, benches, black-boards &c., at their proper prices, we have opened an agency at No. 23, Brindaban Mullik's 2nd Lane, Calcutta. The rate of commission we charge for executing orders is only 5 per cent. We take upon ourselves to send the things ordered for by Post, Rail, Steamer or any other cheap conveyance according to instructions, the charge of conveyance being payable by the buyer himself. Every order should be accompanied by cash. As to our respectability we ask the public to refer to the following gentlemen :—

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NATIONAL INDIAN ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting will be held at the Theatre of the Hindu School on Thursday, the 10th instant, at 5 P. M.

BUSINESS.

1. To receive the Report for 1880.
2. To announce the retirement of Mrs. Knight from the offices of Hon. Secretary and Treasurer.
3. To meet Mrs. Lindstedt and the Rev. A. J. Bamford, B. A., who have kindly volunteered to take up these offices.

A Paper will be read by the Rev. Dr. Banerjea on "*Hindu Domestic Life in Bengal.*"

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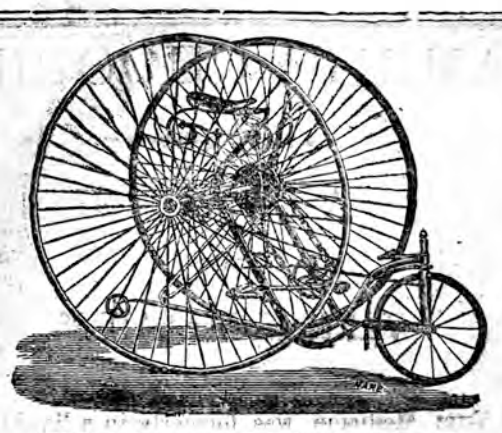

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